

Monday of the 4th Week

At the 6th Hour

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 61): In God is my salvation and my glory; * He is the God of my help.

Verse: Shall not my soul be subjected to God?

The Reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah (14:24-32)

Yhus saith the Lord of Sabaoth: As I have said, so it shall be: and as I have purposed, so the matter shall remain: even to destroy the Assyrians upon My land, and upon My mountains: and they shall be for trampling; and their yoke shall be taken away from their shoulders. This is the purpose which the Lord hath purposed upon the whole earth: and this the hand that is uplifted against all the nations. For what the Holy God hath purposed, who shall frustrate? and who shall turn back His uplifted hand? In the year in which king Ahaz died this word came: "Rejoice not, all ye Philistines, because the yoke of him that smote you is broken: for out of the seed of the serpent shall come forth the young asps, and their young shall come forth flying serpents, and the poor shall be fed by him, and poor men shall rest in peace: but he shall destroy thy seed with hunger, and shall destroy thy remnant. Howl, ye gates of cities; let the cities be troubled and cry, even all the Philistines: for smoke is coming from the north, and there is no possibility of living. And what shall the kings of the nations answer? That the Lord hath founded Sion, and by Him the poor of the people shall be saved."

Prokimenon, Tone 4 (Psalm 62): So shall I bless Thee * in my life.

Verse: O God, my God, unto Thee I rise early at dawn, my soul hath thirsted for Thee.

Monday of the 4th Week

1st Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 63): Hearken O God, unto my prayer,* when I make supplication unto Thee.

Verse: Rescue my soul from fear of the enemy.

The Reading is from Genesis (8:21-9:7)

Whe Lord God, having considered, said, "I will not any more curse the earth, because of the works of men, because the imagination of man is intently bent upon evil things from his youth, I will not therefore any more smite all living flesh as I have done. All the days of the earth, seed and harvest, cold and heat, summer and spring, shall not cease by day or night." And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, "Increase and multiply, and fill the earth and have dominion over it. And the dread and the fear of you shall be upon all the wild beasts of the earth, on all the birds of the sky, and on all things moving upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea, I have placed them under your power. And every reptile which is living shall be to you for meat, I have given all things to you as the green herbs. But flesh with blood of life ye shall not eat. For your blood of your lives will I require at the hand of all wild beasts, and I will require the life of man at the hand of his brother man. He that sheddeth man's blood instead of that blood shall his own be shed, for in the image of God I made man. But do ye increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and have dominion over it."

Monday of the 4th Week

2nd Reading at Vespers

Prokimenon, Tone 6 (Psalm 64): Hearken unto us,* O God our Saviour.

Verse: To Thee is due praise, O God, in Sion.

The Reading is from Proverbs (11:19-12:6)

A righteous son is born for life: but the persecution of the ungodly endeth in death. Perverse ways are an abomination to the Lord: but all they that are blameless in their ways are acceptable to Him. He that unjustly striketh hands shall not be unpunished: but he that soweth righteousness shall receive a faithful reward. As an ornament in a swine's snout, so is beauty to an ill-minded woman. All the desire of the righteous is good: but the hope of the ungodly shall perish. There are some who scatter their own, and make it more: and there are some also who gather, yet have less. Every sincere soul is blessed: but a passionate man is not graceful. May he that hoardeth corn leave it to the nation: but blessing be on the head of him that giveth it. He that deviseth good counsels seeketh good favour: but as for him that seeketh after evil, evil shall overtake him. He that trusteth in wealth shall fall; but he that helpeth righteous men shall rise. He that dealeth not graciously with his own house shall inherit the wind; and the fool shall be servant to the wise man. Out of the fruit of righteousness groweth a tree of life; but the souls of transgressors are cut off before their time. If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear? He that loveth instruction loveth sense, but he that hateth reproofs is a fool. He that hath found favour with the Lord is made better; but a transgressor shall be passed over in silence. A man shall not prosper by wickedness; but the roots of the righteous shall not be taken up. A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband; but as a worm in wood, so a bad woman destroyeth her husband. The thoughts of the righteous are true judgements; but ungodly men devise deceits. The words of ungodly men are crafty; but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them.