

Presanctified Liturgy

Deacon: Bless, Most Blessed, Master.

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!
O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth; who art everywhere and fillest all things. Treasury of blessings, and giver of life. Come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O good one.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us!
(3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Most Holy Trinity have mercy on us. Lord, cleanse us from our sins, Master, pardon our transgressions. Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities, for Thy name's sake.

Lord have mercy. (3x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory: of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Lord, have mercy. (12x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Come, let us worship God, our King! Come, let us worship and fall down before Christ, our King and our God! Come let us worship and fall down before Christ Himself, our King and our God!

Psalm 104

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, Thou art very great! Thou art clothed with honor and majesty, who covers Thyself with light as with a garment; Thou hast stretched out the heavens like a tent.

Thou hast laid the beams of Thy chambers on the waters, Thou makest the clouds Thy chariot, who rides on the wings of the wind. Who makes Thy angels spirits, and Thy ministers a flame of fire.

Thou hast set the earth on its foundations so that it should never be shaken. Thou didst cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

At Thy rebuke they fled; at the sound of Thy thunder they took to flight! The mountains rose, the valleys sank down to the place which Thou didst appoint for them.

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Thou didst set a bound which they should not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth. Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills.

They give drink to every beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst. By them the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

From Thy lofty abode Thou waterest the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of Thy work. Thou hast caused the grass to grow for the cattle, fodder for the animals that serve man.

That he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart.

The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon which He planted. In them the birds build their nests; the stork has her home in the fir trees.

The high mountains are for the wild goats; the rocks are a refuge for the badgers. Thou hast made the moon to mark the seasons. The sun knows its time for setting.

Thou makest darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forest creep forth. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God.

When the sun rises, they get them away and lie down in their dens. Man goes forth to his work and to his labor until the evening.

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all! The earth is full of Thy creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, which teems with things innumerable, living things both small and great.

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There go the ships and Leviathan which Thou didst form to sport in it. These all look to Thee, to give them their food in due season.

When Thou givest to them, they gather it up; when Thou openest Thy hand, they are filled with good things. When Thou hidest Thy face, they are dismayed; when Thou takest away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

When Thou sendest forth Thy Spirit, they are created and Thou renewest the face of the earth! May the glory of the Lord endure forever! May the Lord rejoice in His works!

Who looks on the earth and it trembles! Who touches the mountains and they smoke! I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being!

May my meditation be pleasing to Him, for I rejoice in the Lord! Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more!

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

The sun knows its time for setting. Thou makest darkness, and it is night. O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory to Thee, O God! (3x)

Lord, I Call Upon Thee *sung in the tone of the week*

People: *Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.
Hear me, O Lord.
Lord, I call upon Thee, hear me.
Receive the voice of my prayer.
When I call upon Thee, hear me, O Lord.
Let my prayer arise in Thy sight as incense.
And let the lifting up of my hands,
be an evening sacrifice,
hear me, O Lord.*

Reader: Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord, keep watch over the door of my lips!
Incline not my heart to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and let me not partake of their delights!
Let a good man strike or rebuke me in kindness, but let the oil of the wicked never anoint my head for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds.
When they are given over to those who shall condemn them, then they shall learn that the word of the Lord is true.
As a rock which one cleaves and shatters on the land, so shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of sheol.
But my eyes are toward Thee, O Lord God; in Thee I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless! Keep me from the trap which they have laid for me, and from the snares of evildoers!
Let the wicked together fall into their own nets, while I alone escape.
I cry with my voice to the Lord, with my voice I make supplication to the Lord, I pour out my trouble before Him.
When my spirit departs from me, Thou knowest my way!
In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me.

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I look to the right and watch, but there is none who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me, no man cares for me.

I cry to Thee, O Lord; I say Thou art my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

Give heed to my cry; for I am brought very low!

Deliver me from my persecutors; for they are too strong for me!

- (X) Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks to Thy name!
- (IX) The righteous await me, for Thou wilt deal bountifully with me!
- (VIII) Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord! Lord, hear my voice!
- (VII) Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication!
- (VI) If Thou O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee.
- (V) For Thy name's sake I wait for Thee, O Lord. My soul has waited for Thy word, my soul has hoped on the Lord.
- (IV) From the morning watch until night, from the morning watch, let Israel hope on the Lord.
- (III) For with the Lord there is mercy and with Him is redemption, and He will deliver Israel from all his iniquities.
- (II) Praise the Lord, all nations! Praise Him, all peoples!
- (I) For His mercy is confirmed on us, and the truth of the Lord endures forever!

In the _____^{th/nd/st/rd} Tone: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

then: In the _____^{th/nd/st/rd} Tone: Now and ever and unto ages of ages, Amen.

Readings from the Scriptures

1st Week of Great Lent – Wednesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 5th Tone: Thou, O Lord shall protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Thou, O Lord shall protect us and preserve us

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (1:24-2:3)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Then God said, “Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind”; and it was so.

²⁵ And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,

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over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

²⁹ And God said, “See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.

³⁰ “Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food”; and it was so.

³¹ Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.

² And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done.

³ Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

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Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: Consider and answer me
O Lord, my God.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: How long, O Lord? Will Thou forget me forever? How long
will Thou hide Thy face from me?

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Consider and answer me

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

*The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says
in a loud voice:*

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (2:1-22)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: My son, if you receive my words, And treasure my commands
within you,

² So that you incline your ear to wisdom, And apply your heart
to understanding;

³ Yes, if you cry out for discernment, And lift up your voice for
understanding,

⁴ If you seek her as silver, And search for her as for hidden
treasures;

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- ⁵ Then you will understand the fear of the Lord, And find the knowledge of God.
- ⁶ For the Lord gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding;
- ⁷ He stores up sound wisdom for the upright; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly;
- ⁸ He guards the paths of justice, And preserves the way of His saints.
- ⁹ Then you will understand righteousness and justice, Equity and every good path.
- ¹⁰ When wisdom enters your heart, And knowledge is pleasant to your soul,
- ¹¹ Discretion will preserve you;
- ¹² To deliver you from the way of evil, From the man who speaks perverse things,
- ¹³ From those who leave the paths of uprightness To walk in the ways of darkness;
- ¹⁴ Who rejoice in doing evil, And delight in the perversity of the wicked;
- ¹⁵ Whose ways are crooked, And who are devious in their paths;
- ¹⁶ To deliver you from the immoral woman, From the seductress who flatters with her words,
- ¹⁷ Who forsakes the companion of her youth, And forgets the covenant of her God.
- ¹⁸ For her house leads down to death, And her paths to the dead;
- ¹⁹ None who go to her return, Nor do they regain the paths of life—
- ²⁰ So you may walk in the way of goodness, And keep to the paths of righteousness.
- ²¹ For the upright will dwell in the land, And the blameless will remain in it;
- ²² But the wicked will be cut off from the earth, And the unfaithful will be uprooted from it.

Readings from the Scriptures

1st Week of Great Lent – Friday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 5th Tone: The Lord answer you in the day of trouble.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: The name of the God of Jacob protect you.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: The Lord answer you

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (2:20-3:20)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

²¹ And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

²² Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

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- ²³ And Adam said: “This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man.”
- ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.
- ²⁵ And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.
- ¹ Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?”
- ² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden;
- ³ “but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’ ”
- ⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.
- ⁵ “For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”
- ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.
- ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.
- ⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.
- ⁹ Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, “Where are you?”

- ¹⁰ So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”
- ¹¹ And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”
- ¹² Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.”
- ¹³ And the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”
- ¹⁴ So the Lord God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.
- ¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”
- ¹⁶ To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you.”
- ¹⁷ Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: “Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.
- ¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field.
- ¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return.”
- ²⁰ And Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

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After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: Be exulted in Thy strength, O Lord, and we will praise and sing Thy power.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: In Thy strength the king rejoices, O Lord.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Be exulted in Thy strength, O Lord

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (3:19-34)

Deacon: Let us attend!

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Reader: The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; By understanding He established the heavens;
20 By His knowledge the depths were broken up, And clouds drop down the dew.
21 My son, let them not depart from your eyes— Keep sound wisdom and discretion;
22 So they will be life to your soul And grace to your neck.
23 Then you will walk safely in your way, And your foot will not stumble.
24 When you lie down, you will not be afraid; Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet.
25 Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes;
26 For the Lord will be your confidence, And will keep your foot from being caught.
27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, When it is in the power of your hand to do so.
28 Do not say to your neighbor, “Go, and come back, And tomorrow I will give it,” When you have it with you.
29 Do not devise evil against your neighbor, For he dwells by you for safety’s sake.
30 Do not strive with a man without cause, If he has done you no harm.
31 Do not envy the oppressor, And choose none of his ways;
32 For the perverse person is an abomination to the Lord, But His secret counsel is with the upright.
33 The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, But He blesses the home of the just.
34 Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.

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Readings from the Scriptures

2nd Week of Great Lent – Wednesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O you righteous.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Blessed is He whose transgression is forgiven.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Be glad in the Lord

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (4:16-26)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Then Cain went out from the presence of the Lord and dwelt in the land of Nod on the east of Eden.

¹⁷ And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. And he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son—Enoch.

¹⁸ To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad begot Mehujael, and Mehujael begot Methushael, and Methushael begot Lamech.

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- ¹⁹ Then Lamech took for himself two wives: the name of one was Adah, and the name of the second was Zillah.
- ²⁰ And Adah bore Jabal. He was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock.
- ²¹ His brother's name was Jubal. He was the father of all those who play the harp and flute.
- ²² And as for Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, an instructor of every craftsman in bronze and iron. And the sister of Tubal-Cain was Naamah.
- ²³ Then Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; Wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me.
- ²⁴ If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, Then Lamech seventy-sevenfold."
- ²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, "For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed."
- ²⁶ And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 1st Tone: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

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Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (5:15-6:3)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Drink water from your own cistern, And running water from your own well.

¹⁶ Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets?

¹⁷ Let them be only your own, And not for strangers with you.

¹⁸ Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth.

¹⁹ As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love.

²⁰ For why should you, my son, be enraptured by an immoral woman, And be embraced in the arms of a seductress?

²¹ For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, And He ponders all his paths.

²² His own iniquities entrap the wicked man, And he is caught in the cords of his sin.

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- ²³ He shall die for lack of instruction, And in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.
- ¹ My son, if you become surety for your friend, If you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger,
- ² You are snared by the words of your mouth; You are taken by the words of your mouth.
- ³ So do this, my son, and deliver yourself; For you have come into the hand of your friend: Go and humble yourself; Plead with your friend.
- ⁴ Give no sleep to your eyes, Nor slumber to your eyelids.

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Readings from the Scriptures

2nd Week of Great Lent – Friday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Let Thy mercy and Thy love preserve me forever.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Let Thy mercy and Thy love

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (5:32-6:8)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: And Noah was five hundred years old, and Noah begot Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹ Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them,

² that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

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- ³ And the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”
- ⁴ There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.
- ⁵ Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- ⁶ And the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.
- ⁷ So the Lord said, “I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them.”
- ⁸ But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: I said: Lord, have mercy on me heal my soul.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Blessed is he who considers the poor.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

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Reader: Lord, have mercy on me

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (6:20-7:1)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: My son, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother.

²¹ Bind them continually upon your heart; Tie them around your neck.

²² When you roam, they will lead you; When you sleep, they will keep you; And when you awake, they will speak with you.

²³ For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,

²⁴ To keep you from the evil woman, From the flattering tongue of a seductress.

²⁵ Do not lust after her beauty in your heart, Nor let her allure you with her eyelids.

²⁶ For by means of a harlot A man is reduced to a crust of bread; And an adulteress will prey upon his precious life.

²⁷ Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned?

²⁸ Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared?

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- ²⁹ So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; Whoever touches her shall not be innocent.
- ³⁰ People do not despise a thief If he steals to satisfy himself when he is starving.
- ³¹ Yet when he is found, he must restore sevenfold; He may have to give up all the substance of his house.
- ³² Whoever commits adultery with a woman lacks understanding; He who does so destroys his own soul.
- ³³ Wounds and dishonor he will get, And his reproach will not be wiped away.
- ³⁴ For jealousy is a husband's fury; Therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance.
- ³⁵ He will accept no recompense, Nor will he be appeased though you give many gifts.
- ¹ My son, keep my words, And treasure my commands within you.

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Readings from the Scriptures

3rd Week of Great Lent – Wednesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: I trust in the mercy of God forever and ever.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Why do you boast, O mighty man, of mischief done against the godly?

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: I trust in the mercy of God

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (7:6-9)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Noah was six hundred years old when the floodwaters were on the earth.

⁷ So Noah, with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, went into the ark because of the waters of the flood.

⁸ Of clean animals, of animals that are unclean, of birds, and of everything that creeps on the earth,

⁹ two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah.

Presanctified Liturgy

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: When the Lord turns back the captivity of His people.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: When the Lord turns back

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (9:12-18)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: If you are wise, you are wise for yourself, And if you scoff, you will bear it alone.”

Presanctified Liturgy

- ¹³ A foolish woman is clamorous; She is simple, and knows nothing.
- ¹⁴ For she sits at the door of her house, On a seat by the highest places of the city,
- ¹⁵ To call to those who pass by, Who go straight on their way:
- ¹⁶ “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here”; And as for him who lacks understanding, she says to him,
- ¹⁷ “Stolen water is sweet, And bread eaten in secret is pleasant.”
- ¹⁸ But he does not know that the dead are there, That her guests are in the depths of hell.

Readings from the Scriptures

3rd Week of Great Lent – Friday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: O grant us Thy help against the enemy for vain is the help of man.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: O God, Thou hast rejected us, broken our defenses.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: O grant us Thy help against the enemy

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (8:4-21)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Then the ark rested in the seventh month, the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat.

⁵ And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month. In the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen.

⁶ So it came to pass, at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made.

⁷ Then he sent out a raven, which kept going to and fro until the waters had dried up from the earth.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ⁸ He also sent out from himself a dove, to see if the waters had receded from the face of the ground.
- ⁹ But the dove found no resting place for the sole of her foot, and she returned into the ark to him, for the waters were on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took her, and drew her into the ark to himself.
- ¹⁰ And he waited yet another seven days, and again he sent the dove out from the ark.
- ¹¹ Then the dove came to him in the evening, and behold, a freshly plucked olive leaf was in her mouth; and Noah knew that the waters had receded from the earth.
- ¹² So he waited yet another seven days and sent out the dove, which did not return again to him anymore.
- ¹³ And it came to pass in the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, that the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and indeed the surface of the ground was dry.
- ¹⁴ And in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dried.
- ¹⁵ Then God spoke to Noah, saying,
- ¹⁶ “Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you.
- ¹⁷ “Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you: birds and cattle and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.”
- ¹⁸ So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him.
- ¹⁹ Every animal, every creeping thing, every bird, and whatever creeps on the earth, according to their families, went out of the ark.
- ²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

Presanctified Liturgy

²¹ And the Lord smelled a soothing aroma. Then the Lord said in His heart, “I will never again curse the ground for man’s sake, although the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.

²² “While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease.”

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: Hear my cry, O Lord, listen to my prayer.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: From the ends of the earth I call to Thee.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Hear my cry, O Lord

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Presanctified Liturgy

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (10:31-11:12)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, But the
perverse tongue will be cut out.

³² The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, But the
mouth of the wicked what is perverse.

¹ Dishonest scales are an abomination to the Lord, But a just
weight is His delight.

² When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is
wisdom.

³ The integrity of the upright will guide them, But the perversity
of the unfaithful will destroy them.

⁴ Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, But righteousness
delivers from death.

⁵ The righteousness of the blameless will direct his way aright,
But the wicked will fall by his own wickedness.

⁶ The righteousness of the upright will deliver them, But the
unfaithful will be caught by their lust.

⁷ When a wicked man dies, his expectation will perish, And the
hope of the unjust perishes.

⁸ The righteous is delivered from trouble, And it comes to the
wicked instead.

⁹ The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor, But
through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.

¹⁰ When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; And
when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.

¹¹ By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, But it is
overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

¹² He who is devoid of wisdom despises his neighbor, But a man
of understanding holds his peace.

Readings from the Scriptures

4th Week of Great Lent – Wednesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Give the King Thy justice, O God, and Thy righteousness to the Royal Son.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (9:18:10)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Now the sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And Ham was the father of Canaan.

¹⁹ These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was populated.

²⁰ And Noah began to be a farmer, and he planted a vineyard.

²¹ Then he drank of the wine and was drunk, and became uncovered in his tent.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ²² And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside.
- ²³ But Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and went backward and covered the nakedness of their father. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness.
- ²⁴ So Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done to him.
- ²⁵ Then he said: "Cursed be Canaan; A servant of servants He shall be to his brethren."
- ²⁶ And he said: "Blessed be the Lord, The God of Shem, And may Canaan be his servant.
- ²⁷ May God enlarge Japheth, And may he dwell in the tents of Shem; And may Canaan be his servant."
- ²⁸ And Noah lived after the flood three hundred and fifty years.
- ²⁹ So all the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years; and he died.
- ¹ Now this is the genealogy of the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. And sons were born to them after the flood.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: It is good for me to be near my God.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

Presanctified Liturgy

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: It is good for me

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (12:23-13:9)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: A prudent man conceals knowledge, But the heart of fools proclaims foolishness.

²⁴ The hand of the diligent will rule, But the lazy man will be put to forced labor.

²⁵ Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a good word makes it glad.

²⁶ The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

²⁷ The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, But diligence is man's precious possession.

²⁸ In the way of righteousness is life, And in its pathway there is no death.

¹ A wise son heeds his father's instruction, But a scoffer does not listen to rebuke.

² A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ³ He who guards his mouth preserves his life, But he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.
- ⁴ The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; But the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.
- ⁵ A righteous man hates lying, But a wicked man is loathsome and comes to shame.
- ⁶ Righteousness guards him whose way is blameless, But wickedness overthrows the sinner.
- ⁷ There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing; And one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches.
- ⁸ The ransom of a man's life is his riches, But the poor does not hear rebuke.
- ⁹ The light of the righteous rejoices, but the lamp of the wicked shall be extinguished.

Readings from the Scriptures

4th Week of Great Lent – Friday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Give Ear, O Shepherd of Israel Thou who leadest Joseph like a flock!

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Thou who art enthroned upon the Cherubim, shine forth.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Give Ear, O Shepherd of Israel

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (12:1-7)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, From your family And from your father’s house, To a land that I will show you.

² I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Presanctified Liturgy

- ⁴ So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.
- ⁵ Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan.
- ⁶ Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land.
- ⁷ Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Rejoice in God, our helper.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Raise a song, sound the timbrel.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Rejoice in God

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Presanctified Liturgy

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (14:15-26)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The simple believes every word, But the prudent considers well his steps.

¹⁶ A wise man fears and departs from evil, But a fool rages and is self-confident.

¹⁷ A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, And a man of wicked intentions is hated.

¹⁸ The simple inherit folly, But the prudent are crowned with knowledge.

¹⁹ The evil will bow before the good, And the wicked at the gates of the righteous.

²⁰ The poor man is hated even by his own neighbor, But the rich has many friends.

²¹ He who despises his neighbor sins;

²² Do they not go astray who devise evil? But mercy and truth belong to those who devise good.

²³ In all labor there is profit, But idle chatter leads only to poverty.

²⁴ The crown of the wise is their riches, But the foolishness of fools is folly.

²⁵ A true witness delivers souls, But a deceitful witness speaks lies.

²⁶ In the fear of the Lord there is strong confidence, And His children will have a place of refuge.

Presanctified Liturgy

Readings from the Scriptures

5th Week of Great Lent – Wednesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: O Lord, Thou God of vengeance, show Thyself.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Rise up, O Judge of the earth; render to the proud their deserts.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: O Lord, Thou God of vengeance

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (17:1-9)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless.

² “And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.”

³ Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying:

⁴ “As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ⁵ “No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations.
- ⁶ “I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.
- ⁷ “And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.
- ⁸ “Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”
- ⁹ And God said to Abraham: “As for you, you shall keep My covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Sing to the Lord a new song.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Sing to the Lord, bless His name.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Sing to the Lord

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Presanctified Liturgy

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (15:20-16:9)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: A wise son makes a father glad, But a foolish man despises his mother.

²¹ Folly is joy to him who is destitute of discernment, But a man of understanding walks uprightly.

²² Without counsel, plans go awry, But in the multitude of counselors they are established.

²³ A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, And a word spoken in due season, how good it is!

²⁴ The way of life winds upward for the wise, That he may turn away from hell below.

²⁵ The Lord will destroy the house of the proud, But He will establish the boundary of the widow.

²⁶ The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord, But the words of the pure are pleasant.

²⁷ He who is greedy for gain troubles his own house, But he who hates bribes will live.

²⁸ The heart of the righteous studies how to answer, But the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.

²⁹ The Lord is far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ³⁰ The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, And a good report makes the bones healthy.
- ³¹ The ear that hears the rebukes of life Will abide among the wise.
- ³² He who disdains instruction despises his own soul, But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding.
- ³³ The fear of the Lord is the instruction of wisdom, And before honor is humility.
- ¹ The preparations of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.
- ² All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, But the Lord weighs the spirits.
- ³ Commit your works to the Lord, And your thoughts will be established.
- ⁴ The Lord has made all for Himself,
- ⁵ Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.
- ⁶ In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; And by the fear of the Lord one departs from evil.
- ⁷ When a man's ways please the Lord, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.
- ⁸ Better is a little with righteousness, Than vast revenues without justice.
- ⁹ A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps.

Presanctified Liturgy

Readings from the Scriptures

5th Week of Great Lent – Thursday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 7th Tone: Extol the Lord our God, worship at His footstool for He is holy.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: The Lord reigns; let the people tremble.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Extol the Lord our God

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (18:20-33)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: And the Lord said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave,

²¹ “I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know.”

²² Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord.

²³ And Abraham came near and said, “Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked?”

- ²⁴ “Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous that were in it?”
- ²⁵ “Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”
- ²⁶ So the Lord said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.”
- ²⁷ Then Abraham answered and said, “Indeed now, I who am but dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord:
- ²⁸ “Suppose there were five less than the fifty righteous; would You destroy all of the city for lack of five?” So He said, “If I find there forty-five, I will not destroy it.”
- ²⁹ And he spoke to Him yet again and said, “Suppose there should be forty found there?” So He said, “I will not do it for the sake of forty.”
- ³⁰ Then he said, “Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose thirty should be found there?” So He said, “I will not do it if I find thirty there.”
- ³¹ And he said, “Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: Suppose twenty should be found there?” So He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of twenty.”
- ³² Then he said, “Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of ten.”
- ³³ So the Lord went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Presanctified Liturgy

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the lands.

Choir: repeats prokeimenon

Reader: Serve the Lord with gladness.

Choir: repeats prokeimenon

Reader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord

Choir: finishes prokeimenon

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (16:17-17:17)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; He who keeps his way preserves his soul.

¹⁸ Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall.

¹⁹ Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

- ²⁰ He who heeds the word wisely will find good, And whoever trusts in the Lord, happy is he.
- ²¹ The wise in heart will be called prudent, And sweetness of the lips increases learning.
- ²² Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it. But the correction of fools is folly.
- ²³ The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, And adds learning to his lips.
- ²⁴ Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.
- ²⁵ There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.
- ²⁶ The person who labors, labors for himself, For his hungry mouth drives him on.
- ²⁷ An ungodly man digs up evil, And it is on his lips like a burning fire.
- ²⁸ A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.
- ²⁹ A violent man entices his neighbor, And leads him in a way that is not good.
- ³⁰ He winks his eye to devise perverse things; He purses his lips and brings about evil.
- ³¹ The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, If it is found in the way of righteousness.
- ³² He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, And he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.
- ³³ The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the Lord.
- ¹ Better is a dry morsel with quietness, Than a house full of feasting with strife.
- ² A wise servant will rule over a son who causes shame, And will share an inheritance among the brothers.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ³ The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, But the Lord tests the hearts.
- ⁴ An evildoer gives heed to false lips; A liar listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue.
- ⁵ He who mocks the poor reproaches his Maker; He who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.
- ⁶ Children's children are the crown of old men, And the glory of children is their father.
- ⁷ Excellent speech is not becoming to a fool, Much less lying lips to a prince.
- ⁸ A present is a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor; Wherever he turns, he prospers.
- ⁹ He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.
- ¹⁰ Rebuke is more effective for a wise man Than a hundred blows on a fool.
- ¹¹ An evil man seeks only rebellion; Therefore a cruel messenger will be sent against him.
- ¹² Let a man meet a bear robbed of her cubs, Rather than a fool in his folly.
- ¹³ Whoever rewards evil for good, Evil will not depart from his house.
- ¹⁴ The beginning of strife is like releasing water; Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.
- ¹⁵ He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord.
- ¹⁶ Why is there in the hand of a fool the purchase price of wisdom, Since he has no heart for it?
- ¹⁷ A friend loves at all times, And a brother is born for adversity.

Readings from the Scriptures

5th Week of Great Lent – Friday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: The Lord is compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: The Lord is compassionate and merciful

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (22:1-18)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”

² Then He said, “Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

Presanctified Liturgy

- ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.
- ⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.
- ⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.”
- ⁶ So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.
- ⁷ But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” Then he said, “Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”
- ⁸ And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.” So the two of them went together.
- ⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood.
- ¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.
- ¹¹ But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” So he said, “Here I am.”
- ¹² And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”
- ¹³ Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”
- ¹⁵ Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven,
- ¹⁶ and said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—
- ¹⁷ “blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.
- ¹⁸ “In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O Lord my God, Thou art very great.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: O Lord, how manifold are Thy works!

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Presanctified Liturgy

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (17:17-18:5)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon.

¹⁸ Come, let us take our fill of love until morning; Let us delight ourselves with love.

¹⁹ For my husband is not at home; He has gone on a long journey;

²⁰ He has taken a bag of money with him, And will come home on the appointed day.”

²¹ With her enticing speech she caused him to yield,

²² Immediately he went after her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, Or as a fool to the correction of the stocks,

²³ Till an arrow struck his liver. As a bird hastens to the snare, He did not know it would cost his life.

²⁴ Now therefore, listen to me, my children; Pay attention to the words of my mouth:

²⁵ Do not let your heart turn aside to her ways, Do not stray into her paths;

²⁶ For she has cast down many wounded, And all who were slain by her were strong men.

²⁷ Her house is the way to hell, Descending to the chambers of death.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ¹ Does not wisdom cry out, And understanding lift up her voice?
- ² She takes her stand on the top of the high hill, Beside the way,
where the paths meet.
- ³ She cries out by the gates, at the entry of the city, At the
entrance of the doors:
- ⁴ “To you, O men, I call, And my voice is to the sons of men.
- ⁵ O you simple ones, understand prudence, And you fools, be of
an understanding heart.

Presanctified Liturgy

Readings from the Scriptures

Week of Palms – Wednesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: I love the Lord, because He has heard my voice and my supplication.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: I will walk before the Lord

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (43:26-31; 45:1-16)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: And when Joseph came home, they brought him the present which was in their hand into the house, and bowed down before him to the earth.

²⁷ Then he asked them about their well-being, and said, “Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?”

²⁸ And they answered, “Your servant our father is in good health; he is still alive.” And they bowed their heads down and prostrated themselves.

- ²⁹ Then he lifted his eyes and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your younger brother of whom you spoke to me?" And he said, "God be gracious to you, my son."
- ³⁰ Now his heart yearned for his brother; so Joseph made haste and sought somewhere to weep. And he went into his chamber and wept there.
- ³¹ Then he washed his face and came out; and he restrained himself, and said, "Serve the bread."
- ¹ Then Joseph could not restrain himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Make everyone go out from me!" So no one stood with him while Joseph made himself known to his brothers.
- ² And he wept aloud, and the Egyptians and the house of Pharaoh heard it.
- ³ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph; does my father still live?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed in his presence.
- ⁴ And Joseph said to his brothers, "Please come near to me." So they came near. Then he said: "I am Joseph your brother, whom you sold into Egypt.
- ⁵ "But now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.
- ⁶ "For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting.
- ⁷ "And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.
- ⁸ "So now it was not you who sent me here, but God; and He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ⁹ “Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph: “God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not tarry.
- ¹⁰ “You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near to me, you and your children, your children’s children, your flocks and your herds, and all that you have.
- ¹¹ “There I will provide for you, lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty; for there are still five years of famine.” ’
- ¹² “And behold, your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my mouth that speaks to you.
- ¹³ “So you shall tell my father of all my glory in Egypt, and of all that you have seen; and you shall hurry and bring my father down here.”
- ¹⁴ Then he fell on his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his neck.
- ¹⁵ Moreover he kissed all his brothers and wept over them, and after that his brothers talked with him.
- ¹⁶ Now the report of it was heard in Pharaoh’s house, saying, “Joseph’s brothers have come.” So it pleased Pharaoh and his servants well.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: I will offer my prayers to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Presanctified Liturgy

Reader: I kept my faith, even when I said, ‘I am greatly afflicted.’

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: I will offer my prayers to the Lord

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (21:23-22:4)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Whoever guards his mouth and tongue Keeps his soul from troubles.

²⁴ A proud and haughty man— “Scoffer” is his name; He acts with arrogant pride.

²⁵ The desire of the lazy man kills him, For his hands refuse to labor.

²⁶ He covets greedily all day long, But the righteous gives and does not spare.

²⁷ The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; How much more when he brings it with wicked intent!

²⁸ A false witness shall perish, But the man who hears him will speak endlessly.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ²⁹ A wicked man hardens his face, But as for the upright, he establishes his way.
- ³⁰ There is no wisdom or understanding Or counsel against the Lord.
- ³¹ The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the Lord.
- ¹ A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold.
- ² The rich and the poor have this in common, The Lord is the maker of them all.
- ³ A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, But the simple pass on and are punished.
- ⁴ By humility and the fear of the Lord Are riches and honor and life.

Readings from the Scriptures

Week of Palms – Friday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: Our help is in the Name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, let Israel now say.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Our help is in the Name of the Lord

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Genesis. (49:33:50:26)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: And when Jacob had finished commanding his sons, he drew his feet up into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.

¹ Then Joseph fell on his father's face, and wept over him, and kissed him.

² And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ³ Forty days were required for him, for such are the days required for those who are embalmed; and the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.
- ⁴ Now when the days of his mourning were past, Joseph spoke to the household of Pharaoh, saying, “If now I have found favor in your eyes, please speak in the hearing of Pharaoh, saying,
- ⁵ ‘My father made me swear, saying, “Behold, I am dying; in my grave which I dug for myself in the land of Canaan, there you shall bury me.” Now therefore, please let me go up and bury my father, and I will come back.’ ”
- ⁶ And Pharaoh said, “Go up and bury your father, as he made you swear.”
- ⁷ So Joseph went up to bury his father; and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt,
- ⁸ as well as all the house of Joseph, his brothers, and his father’s house. Only their little ones, their flocks, and their herds they left in the land of Goshen.
- ⁹ And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen, and it was a very great gathering.
- ¹⁰ Then they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, and they mourned there with a great and very solemn lamentation. He observed seven days of mourning for his father.
- ¹¹ And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning at the threshing floor of Atad, they said, “This is a deep mourning of the Egyptians.” Therefore its name was called Abel Mizraim, which is beyond the Jordan.
- ¹² So his sons did for him just as he had commanded them.
- ¹³ For his sons carried him to the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, before Mamre, which

- Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite as property for a burial place.
- ¹⁴ And after he had buried his father, Joseph returned to Egypt, he and his brothers and all who went up with him to bury his father.
- ¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "Perhaps Joseph will hate us, and may actually repay us for all the evil which we did to him."
- ¹⁶ So they sent messengers to Joseph, saying, "Before your father died he commanded, saying,
- ¹⁷ 'Thus you shall say to Joseph: "I beg you, please forgive the trespass of your brothers and their sin; for they did evil to you." ' Now, please, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of your father.'" And Joseph wept when they spoke to him.
- ¹⁸ Then his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, "Behold, we are your servants."
- ¹⁹ Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God?"
- ²⁰ "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.
- ²¹ "Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.
- ²² So Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he and his father's household. And Joseph lived one hundred and ten years.
- ²³ Joseph saw Ephraim's children to the third generation. The children of Machir, the son of Manasseh, were also brought up on Joseph's knees.
- ²⁴ And Joseph said to his brethren, "I am dying; but God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Presanctified Liturgy

²⁵ Then Joseph took an oath from the children of Israel, saying, “God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here.”

²⁶ So Joseph died, being one hundred and ten years old; and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion which cannot be moved but abides forever.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest upon the Land allotted to the righteous.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Presanctified Liturgy

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Proverbs. (31:8-31)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Open your mouth for the speechless, In the cause of all who are appointed to die.

⁹ Open your mouth, judge righteously, And plead the cause of the poor and needy.

¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies.

¹¹ The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain.

¹² She does him good and not evil All the days of her life.

¹³ She seeks wool and flax, And willingly works with her hands.

¹⁴ She is like the merchant ships, She brings her food from afar.

¹⁵ She also rises while it is yet night, And provides food for her household, And a portion for her maidservants.

¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it; From her profits she plants a vineyard.

¹⁷ She girds herself with strength, And strengthens her arms.

¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise is good, And her lamp does not go out by night.

¹⁹ She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her hand holds the spindle.

²⁰ She extends her hand to the poor, Yes, she reaches out her hands to the needy.

²¹ She is not afraid of snow for her household, For all her household is clothed with scarlet.

²² She makes tapestry for herself; Her clothing is fine linen and purple.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ²³ Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land.
- ²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them, And supplies sashes for the merchants.
- ²⁵ Strength and honor are her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come.
- ²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness.
- ²⁷ She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness.
- ²⁸ Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her:
- ²⁹ “Many daughters have done well, But you excel them all.”
- ³⁰ Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.
- ³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands, And let her own works praise her in the gates.

Readings from the Scriptures

Holy Week – Monday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: The Lord bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in His ways.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: The Lord bless you from Zion

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Exodus. (1:1-20)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Now these are the names of the children of Israel who came to Egypt; each man and his household came with Jacob:

² Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah;

³ Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin;

⁴ Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

⁵ All those who were descendants of Jacob were seventy persons (for Joseph was in Egypt already).

⁶ And Joseph died, all his brothers, and all that generation.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ⁷ But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.
- ⁸ Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.
- ⁹ And he said to his people, “Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we;
- ¹⁰ “come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land.”
- ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses.
- ¹² But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread of the children of Israel.
- ¹³ So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor.
- ¹⁴ And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.
- ¹⁵ Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one was Shiphrah and the name of the other Puah;
- ¹⁶ and he said, “When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live.”
- ¹⁷ But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.
- ¹⁸ So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?”

Presanctified Liturgy

¹⁹ And the midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come to them.”

²⁰ Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty.

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: We bless you in the Name of the Lord.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Sorely have they afflicted me from my youth.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: We bless you

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Presanctified Liturgy

Reader: The reading is from the book of Job. (1:1-12)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.

² And seven sons and three daughters were born to him.

³ Also, his possessions were seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred female donkeys, and a very large household, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East.

⁴ And his sons would go and feast in their houses, each on his appointed day, and would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them.

⁵ So it was, when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did regularly.

⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them.

⁷ And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

⁸ Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"

⁹ So Satan answered the Lord and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

¹⁰ "Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

Presanctified Liturgy

- ¹¹ “But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!”
- ¹² And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person.” So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

Presanctified Liturgy

Readings from the Scriptures

Holy Week – Tuesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6th Tone: Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy might.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Remember, O Lord, in David's favor, all the hardships he endured.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Exodus. (2:5-10)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river. And her maidens walked along the riverside; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it.

⁶ And when she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."

Presanctified Liturgy

- ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?"
- ⁸ And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the maiden went and called the child's mother.
- ⁹ Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him.
- ¹⁰ And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Behold, how good and pleasant it is

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Presanctified Liturgy

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Job. (1:13-22)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house;
¹⁴ and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them,
¹⁵ "when the Sabeans raided them and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
¹⁷ While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"
¹⁸ While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house,
¹⁹ "and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

Presanctified Liturgy

- ²⁰ Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped.
- ²¹ And he said: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.”
- ²² In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

Presanctified Liturgy

Readings from the Scriptures

Holy Week – Wednesday

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: O give thanks to the God of heaven for His steadfast love endures forever.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: O give thanks to the God of gods, for His steadfast love endures forever.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: O give thanks to the God of heaven

Choir: *finishes the prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Exodus. (2:11-22)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.
¹² So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.
¹³ And when he went out the second day, behold, two Hebrew men were fighting, and he said to the one who did the wrong, “Why are you striking your companion?”

Presanctified Liturgy

- ¹⁴ Then he said, “Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?” So Moses feared and said, “Surely this thing is known!”
- ¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.
- ¹⁶ Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew water, and they filled the troughs to water their father’s flock.
- ¹⁷ Then the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.
- ¹⁸ When they came to Reuel their father, he said, “How is it that you have come so soon today?”
- ¹⁹ And they said, “An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and he also drew enough water for us and watered the flock.”
- ²⁰ So he said to his daughters, “And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread.”
- ²¹ Then Moses was content to live with the man, and he gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses.
- ²² And she bore him a son. He called his name Gershom, for he said, “I have been a stranger in a foreign land.”

After the 1st Reading is completed, the 2nd Reading begins as follows:

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto All!

Reader: And to your spirit!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone: Thy steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever; Do not forsake the work of Thy hands.

Presanctified Liturgy

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: I give Thee thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing Thy praises.

Choir: *repeats prokeimenon*

Reader: Thy steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever

Choir: *finishes prokeimenon*

Deacon: Wisdom!

The Priest, taking the candlestick with the censer in both hands faces the Altar and says in a loud voice:

Priest: Let us attend!

Then, turning to face the people who make a prostration, he says:

Priest: The light of Christ illumines all!

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from the book of Job. (2:1-10)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them to present himself before the Lord.

² And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

³ Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil? And still he holds fast to his integrity, although you incited Me against him, to destroy him without cause."

Presanctified Liturgy

- ⁴ So Satan answered the Lord and said, “Skin for skin! Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life.
- ⁵ “But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!”
- ⁶ And the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life.”
- ⁷ So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.
- ⁸ And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes.
- ⁹ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!”
- ¹⁰ But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

