

**The Divine Liturgy
of the Presanctified Gifts**

celebrated on
Wednesday, March 8, 2006

The reading from Genesis tells the story of the children of Adam and Eve---Cain, who killed his brother Abel, and Seth, their third child.

The reading from Proverbs counsels us about marital fidelity and to great caution in our financial dealings with each other.

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140

Tone 1

O Lord, I have cried to you, hear me. Hear me, O Lord! O
Lord, I have cried to you, hear me; re - ceive the voice of my pray'r when I
call up - on you. Hear me, O Lord!
Let my pray'r as - cend to you like in - cense and the lift - ing up of my hands
like an eve - ning sac - ri - fice. Hear me, O Lord!

O Lord, set a guard before my mouth
and set a seal on the door of *my* lips.

Let not my heart be inclined to evil,
nor make excuses for sins I *commit*.

Let me never share in sinners' feasting.
If a just man strikes or reproves me it *is* kindness

but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against *their* malice.

The princes were thrown down by the side of the rock;
then they understood that my words *were* kind.

As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of *the* grave.

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned;
in you I take refuge; spare *my* soul!

From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe;
keep me from the snares of those who *do* evil.

Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
while I pursue my way *unharm*ed.

With all my voice I cry to the Lord,
with all my voice I entreat *the* Lord.

I pour out my trouble before him;
I tell him all my distress while my spirit faints *with*in me.

But you, O Lord, know my path.
On the way where I shall walk they have hidden a snare to *entrap* me.

Look on my right and see:
there is no one who takes *my* part.

I have no means of escape,
not one who cares for *my* soul.

I cry to you, O Lord.
I have said: "You are my refuge, all I have in the land of *the* living."

Listen, then, to my cry
for I am in the depths *of* distress.

Rescue me from those who pursue me
for they are stronger *than* I.

Bring my soul out of this prison
and then I shall praise *your* name.

Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness *to* me.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear *my* voice!

Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of *my* pleading.

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would stand?
But with you is found forgiveness: for this we *revere* you.

My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord more than watchman *for* daybreak.

Cantor: Let the watchman count on daybreak
(on 4) and Israel on the Lord.

Tone 1

If we would fast in spir - it we must not tell lies with our tongue nor give
cause for scan-dal or take of-fense. Rath-er, through repentance, let us bright-en the
lamp of our soul. With tears, let us cry out to Christ: Re - mit our
sins, for you love man - kind.

Cantor: Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
(on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Tone 3

Through the prayers of the di-vine a-pos-tles, let us right-ly keep the season

of the fast, O Lord. Grant us compunction that we may all be saved

and glorify your good-ness and com-pas-sion.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you nations,
(on 2) acclaim him all you peoples!

Tone 3

Great and fear-some is your com-ing, O Lord when you will

sit in judgment and dis-pense jus-tice. Do not judge me, for I am

al-read-y con-demned; but spare me through the prayers of your a-pos-tles

who have been pleas-ing to you, O God.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

Tone 6

O a-pos-tles of Christ, bea-cons of the world, rich treasures of the knowledge of

our all-wise God, de-liv-er from temp-ta-tions us who praise you.

Through your ho - ly prayers lead us through the sea - son of the fast and guide
 us to live free from all e - vil and to please our God as we anticipate the
 pas - sion of Christ, of - fer - ing him our praise with con - fi - dence.

Cantor: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 now and ever and forever. Amen.

Theotokion

Tone 1

Tossed a - bout on the storm - y seas of sin, I has - ten to the peace - ful ha - ven of
 your prayer, O most pure The - o - to - kos, I cry out to you: Save
 me! Ex - tend your pow - er - ful right hand to your serv - ant, O all - spot - less one.

The Hymn of the Evening

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

O Joy - ful Light of the ho - ly glo - ry of the Fa - ther Im - mor - tal,
the hea - ven - ly, ho - ly, bles - sed One, O Je - sus Christ: Now that we have
reached the set - ting of the sun, and see the eve - ning light, we sing to God,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it. It is fit - ting at all times to raise
a song of praise in meas - ured mel - o - dy to you, O Son of God, the
Giv - er of Life. There - fore, the un - i - verse sings your glo - ry.

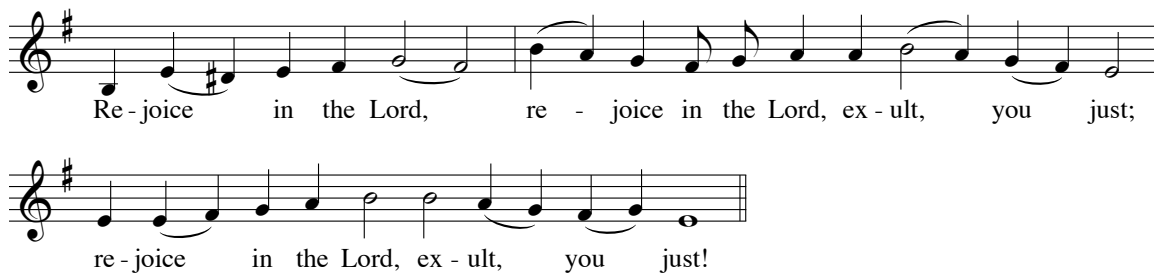
Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace ❖ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The verses of the Prokeimena are sung by the Deacon.

Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 6 (Psalm 31: 11, 1a)



Re-joyce in the Lord, re-joyce in the Lord, ex-ult, you just;
re-joyce in the Lord, ex-ult, you just!

Verse: Happy are they whose offenses are forgiven.

All repeat the Prokeimenon.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Genesis 4: 16 - 26]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon 2 - Tone 1 (Psalm 32: 22, 1a)



May your mer-cy, O Lord, be up-on us, may your mer-cy be up-on us
who have placed our hope in you.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous ones.

All repeat the Prokeimenon.

The faithful kneel.

The Blessing With Light

Deacon: Give the command!

Celebrant: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The light of Christ shines upon everyone.

*The faithful give no response to these words. All make three prostrations in silence.
The faithful are seated. The lector, without introduction, begins:*

Lector: A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Lector: [Proverbs 5: 15 - 6: 3]

Celebrant: Peace ❖ be to you, reader.

