

Propers for the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Wednesday in the First Week of the Great Fast
February 25, 2009

The reading from Genesis relates the works of God's creation on the sixth day, making the living creatures and then creating man, and then resting from all his works on the Sabbath (seventh day).

The reading from Proverbs tells us the reason we are being given this instruction: "Thus you may walk in the way of good men, and keep to the paths of the just."

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140

Tone 8

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 ascend 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 excuse for the 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.

Prokeimenon 2 - Tone 6 (Psalm 12:4,2)

Look at me; an - swer me, O God.

Look at me; an - swer me, O God.

Verse: How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face?

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.

Lector: A reading from the Book of Proverbs.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Proverbs 2:1-22]

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to you, reader.

The service continues with the solemn evening psalm ("Let my prayer ascend").

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.

Psalm 141 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.

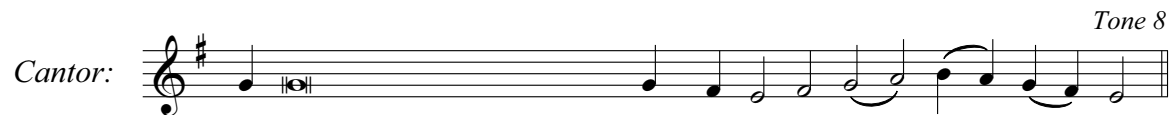
Around me the just will assemble
because of your goodness **to** me.


Psalm 129 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;
Lord, hear *my* voice!

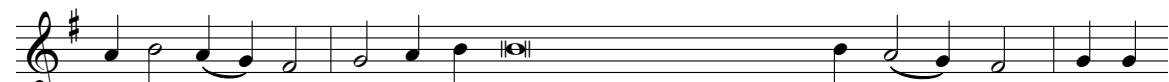
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of *my* pleading.


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 day-break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

All: 
While fast-ing in body let us al- so fast in spir - it. Let us loos-en ev'ry bond of


in - i - qui - ty. Let us cut through the knots of forced a - gree - ments. Let us


rip up ev - 'ry un-just con - tract. Let us give bread to the hun - gry


and wel- come the homeless poor in - to our homes so that we may receive great


mer - - - cy from Christ our God.

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 5 (Psalm 11:8,2a):


You, O Lord, will keep us and pre-serve us for - ev - er, for - ev - er


from this gen - er - a - - - - - tion.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the righteous have vanished.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Lector: A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

The faithful SIT while the lector chants the reading.

Lector: [Genesis 1:24 - 2:3]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.

ex - alt - ed our hu - man race.

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

*The clergy and servers enter the sanctuary as "O Joyful Light" is sung.
The sanctuary and the faithful are incensed.*

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 u - ni - verse sings your glo - ry.

Tone 2

Cantor: Be - cause with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemp - tion, Is - ra - el
 in - deed he will re - deem from all its in - i - qui - ty.

All:

O a - pos - tles and eye - wit - nes - ses of God, Je - sus, who is the true
spir - i - tual sun, sent you out as radiant bolts of lightning in - to the whole world.
By the bright - ness of your di - vine preach - ing, he has dis - persed the dark - ness
of er - ror and en - light - ened those caught in the e - vil gloom of ig - nor - ance.
En - treat him like - wise to send down up - on us en - light - en - ment and
great mer - cy.

Cantor: Praise the Lord, all you na - tions; ac - claim him all you peo - ples!

All: ②

E - li - jah was carried up to the heights of heav - en, rid - ing in a di - vine
 char - i - ot of vir - tues, be - cause he had been made bril - liant by fast - ing.
 My low - ly soul, long for the same, and like - wise fast from all wicked - ness
 and mur - der - ous strife and from pleas - ures which delight but pass a - way.
 So you will escape the bitter, everlast - ing pain of Ge - hen - na, cry - ing out to
 Christ: O Lord, glo - ry to you.

Cantor: *Tone 5*

Strong is the love of the Lord for us; he is faith - ful for - ev - er.

All: ①

O a - pos - tles of God, fer - vent in - tercessors for the world and shields of the
 faith - ful, you have the pow - er to speak boldly before Christ our God.

We im - plore you, all - re - vered a - pos - tles, in - ter - cede in our be - half
 that we may keep the good season of the fast with joy and re - ceive the grace of
 the consub - stan - tial Trin - it - y. O great and glo - rious her - alds,
 pray for our souls.

The faithful STAND.

Tone 8

Cantor:

Glo - ry to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it,
 now and ev - er and for - ev - er. A - men.

All:

Con - sid - er me, O Bride of God: ac - cept the sighs of my con - trite heart, O Vir - gin
 Mar - y, and do not despise the lifting up of my hands, O Most Pure One.
 Since you are good and lov - ing, let me praise and ex - tol you who have