

Propers for the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Wednesday in the Sixth Week of the Great Fast
April 1, 2009

The reading from Genesis tells the story of Joseph, son of Jacob, meeting and reconciling with his eleven brothers. This long reading is seen as a type of Christ, given over to death but restored to life and reconciling all to Himself.

The reading from Proverbs compares and contrasts the wicked man with the one who trusts in the Lord.

The Lamplighting Psalms

Psalm 140

Tone 5

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 4 (Psalm 115:8,1)

My vows to the Lord I will ful-fill be-fore all
 his peo- - - - ple.

Verse: I trusted, even when I said: I am sorely afflicted.

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 21:23 - 22:4]

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to you, reader.

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

Deacon: Let us be attentive!

Celebrant: Peace ☩ be to all!

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

Prokeimenon 1 - Tone 4 (Psalm 114:9,1)

I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord, in the land of
the liv - - - - ing.

Verse: I love the Lord, for he has heard the cry of my appeal.

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 43:26-30; 45:1-16]

Deacon: Wisdom! Be attentive!

The faithful STAND.

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.

Psalms 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.

Tone 5

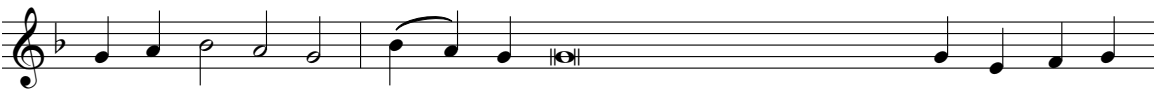
Cantor:  Let the watch-man count on day - break and Is - ra - el on the Lord.

All:  Rich in the pas-sions, I am draped in a subtle robe of hy - poc - ri - sy,

 I de-light in e - vils of in - tem - p'rance. I am a model of ut - ter heart - less - ness.

 I have a - ban - doned my rea - son. Starved of all good and sick from ne - glect,


 I lie be - fore the gates of re - pent - ance. But you, O Lord, make me destitute of

 sin like Laz - a - rus, save me from having to beg him to dip his fin - ger in

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.

All:

Re-joyce, O Seal of Pro-phe-cy, good news of the god-ly-voiced a-pos - tles;

for you tru-ly gave birth to God in the flesh which we can-not fathom or ex-plain,

O pure one. For this you were the first to be hon - ored

and to sa-vor the de-lights of Par-a-dise. There-fore, we extol you with songs as a

bril - liant ad - vo - cate and in - ter - ces - sor pleas - ing to God.

Through you, O most pure one, we have been en - riched

and made wor - thy of the everlasting life of your Son

who rich - ly be - stows great mer - - - - - cies.

wa - ter to soothe my tongue in the unquench-a - ble flames. Let me a - bide

in - stead in the bosom of the Pa - tri - arch A - bra - ham, for you love

us all.

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: ③

As you walked in the flesh, O Je - sus, in the land be - yond the Jor - dan,

you cried out to those who were with you: Our friend Laz - arus is already

dead and buried in the grave. My friends, I re - joyce, for you will learn

that I whom you see be - got - ten as man re - main in - divisibly God and

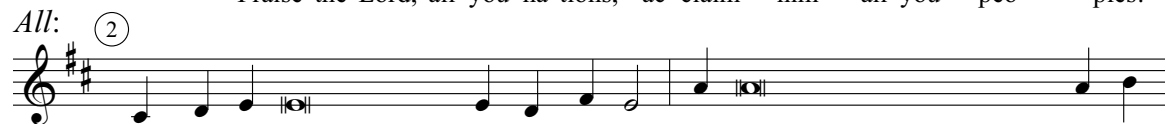


know all things. Come, let us go and give him life. Let death taste
its to-tal de-feat and the de-struction which I will ac-com-plish by grant-ing
great mer - cy to the world.

Tone 6

Cantor: 

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

All: ② 

Faith-ful, let us imitate Mar-tha and Mar-y and present to the Lord the ap-peat of

god - ly deeds. When he comes to raise up our mind, which lies

dead in the tomb, miserable, senseless, and un - con - cerned, o - blivious to the

fear of the Lord, lack-ing en - er - gy and life, let us cry

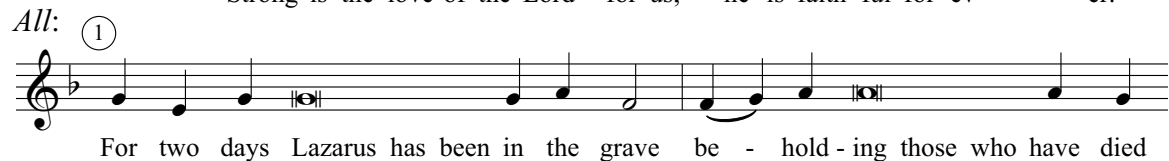
out: Consid-er us, O Lord; once you raised your friend Lazarus by your awe - some

pres - ence, now restore us all to life by grant - ing great mer - cy.

Tone 5

Cantor: 

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

All: ① 

For two days Lazarus has been in the grave be - hold - ing those who have died

since time be - gan. There he sees strange and fear - ful sights: a num-ber-less

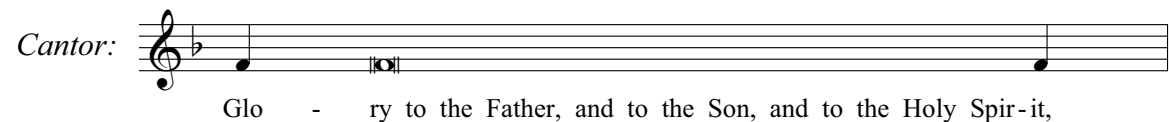
mul - titude held in Ha - des' chains. There - fore, his rel - atives weep bit-ter - ly

be - fore his grave. But Christ came to give life to his friend

so that all might proclaim with one voice: Bless-ed are you, O Sav - ior;

have mer - cy on us.

The faithful STAND.

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.