Wednesday of the First Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 11 [12]:7)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Celebrant: Wisdom!

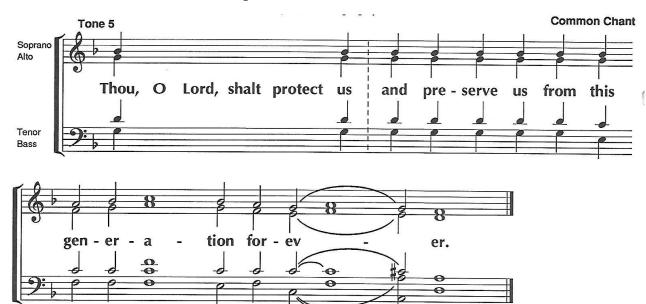
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 5^{th} Tone.

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation

forever.

(Verse) Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us/



Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 1:24 - 2:3) (RSV)

Reader:

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the cattle according to their kinds, and everything that creeps upon the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, a sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God finished his work which he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all his work which he had done in creation.

Wednesday of the First Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 12 [13]:3)

Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

Consider and answer me, O Lord my God.

(Verse) How long, O Lord? Wilt Thou forget me forever? How long wilt Thou hide Thy face from me?

Consider and answer me/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 2: 1 - 22) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you cry out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and preserving the way of his saints. Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; discretion will watch over you; understanding will guard you; delivering you from the way of evil, from men

of perverted speech, who forsake the paths of uprightness to walk in the ways of darkness, who rejoice in doing evil and delight in the perverseness of evil; men whose paths are crooked, and who are devious in their ways. You will be saved from the loose woman, from the adventuress with her smooth words, who forsakes the companion of her youth and forgets the covenant of her God; for her house sinks down to death, and her paths to the shades; none who go to her come back nor do they regain the paths of life. So you will walk in the way of good men and keep to the paths of the righteous. For the upright will inhabit the land, and men of integrity will remain in it; but the wicked will be cut off from the land, and the treacherous will be rooted out of it.

Friday of the First Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 19 [20]: 1)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

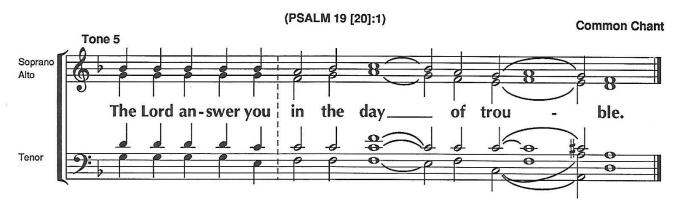
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 5^{th} Tone.

The Lord answer you in the day of trouble.

(Verse) The Name of The God of Jacob protect you.

The Lord answer you/



Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 2:20 - 3:20) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper fit for him. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh; and the rib which the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man leaves his father and

his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Now the serpent was more subtle than any other wild creature that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat of any tree of the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons. And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of thee in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent beguiled me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all cattle, and above all wild animals; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. 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." To the woman he said, "I will greatly multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth to you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all the living.

Friday of the First Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 21 [22]:13)

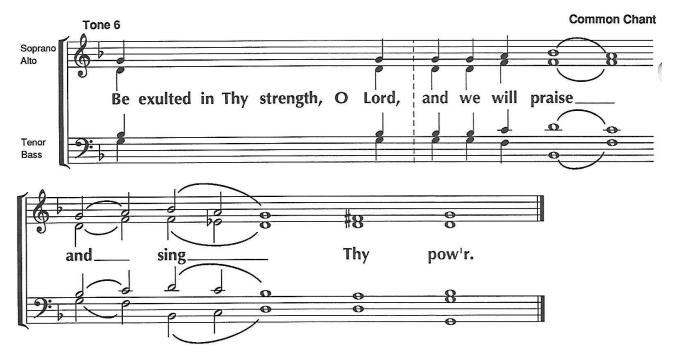
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

Be exulted in Thy strength, O Lord, and we will praise and sing Thy Power.

(Verse) In Thy strength, the king rejoices, O lord.

Be exulted in Thy strength, O Lord/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 3:19 - 34) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

The LORD by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; by his knowledge the deeps broke forth, and the clouds drop down the dew. My son, keep sound wisdom and discretion; let them not escape from your

sight, and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. Then you will walk on your way securely and your foot will not stumble. If you sit down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. Do not be afraid of sudden panic, or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes; for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught. Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it" -- when you have it with you. Do not plan evil against your neighbor who dwells trustingly beside you. Do not contend with a man for no reason, when he has done you no harm. Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways; for the perverse man is an abomination to the LORD, but the upright are in his confidence. The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the abode of the righteous. Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he shows favor.

Wednesday of the Second Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 31 [32]: 11)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

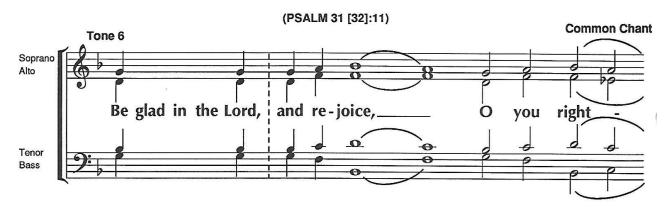
Celebrant: Wisdom!

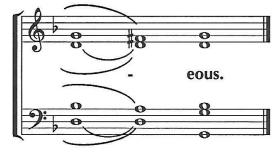
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

Be glad in The Lord, and rejoice, O, you righteous.

(Verse) Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven.

Be glad in The Lord/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 4:16 - 26) (RSV)

Reader:

Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden. 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. To Enoch was born Irad; and Irad was the father of Me-hu'ja-el, and Me-hu'ja-el the father of Me-thu'sha-el, and Me-thu'sha-el the father of Lamech. And Lamech took two wives; the name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have cattle. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Na'amah. Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, hearken to what I say: I have slain a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain is avenged sevenfold, truly Lamech seventy-sevenfold." And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another child instead of Abel, for Cain slew him." To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time men began to call upon the name of the LORD.

Wednesday of the Second Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 32 [33]:22)

Celebrant: 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.

(Verse) Rejoice in The Lord, O you righteous.

Let Thy mercy, O lord, be upon us/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 5:15 - 6:3) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well. Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely hind, a graceful doe. Let her affection fill

you at all times with delight, be infatuated always with her love. Why should you be infatuated, my son, with a loose woman and embrace the bosom of an adventuress? For a man's ways are before the eyes of the LORD, and he watches all his paths. The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him, and he is caught in the toils of his sin. He dies for lack of discipline, and because of his great folly he is lost. My son, if you have become surety for your neighbor, have given your pledge for a stranger; if you are snared in the utterance of your lips, caught in the words of your mouth; then do this, my son, and save yourself, for you have come into your neighbor's power: go, hasten, and importune your neighbor.

Friday of the Second Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 39 [40]:11)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4^{th} Tone.

Let Thy mercy and Thy love preserve me forever.

(Verse) I waited patiently for The Lord; he inclined to me and heard

my cry.

Let Thy mercy and Thy love/



Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 5:32 - 6:8) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

After Noah was five hundred years old, Noah became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth. When men began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair; and they took to wife such of them as they chose. Then the LORD said, "My spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh, but his days shall be a hundred and twenty years." The Nephilim were 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. These were the mighty men that were of old, the men of renown. The LORD saw

that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the LORD said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the ground, man and beast and creeping things and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

Friday of the Second Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 40 [41]:4)

Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

I said: Lord, have mercy on me. Heal my soul.

(Verse) Blessed is he who considers the poor.

I said: Lord, have mercy on me/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 6:20 - 7:1) (RSV)(NRSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching. Bind them upon your heart always; tie them about your neck. When you walk, they will lead you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; and when you awake, they will talk with you. For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, to preserve you from the evil woman, from the smooth tongue of the adventuress. Do not desire her beauty in your heart, and do not let her capture you with her eyelashes; for a harlot may be hired for a loaf of bread, but an adulteress stalks a man's very life. Can a man carry fire in his bosom and his clothes not be burned? Or can one walk upon hot coals and his feet not be scorched? So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; none who

touches her will go unpunished. Do not men despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry? And if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold; he will give all the goods of his house. He who commits adultery has no sense; he who does it destroys himself. Wounds and dishonor will he get, and his disgrace will not be wiped away. For jealousy arouses a husband's fury, and he shows no restraint when he takes revenge. He accept no compensation, and he refuses a bribe no matter how great. My son, keep my words and treasure up my commandments with you;

Wednesday of the Third Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 51 [52]:8)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Celebrant: Wisdom!

The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone. Reader:

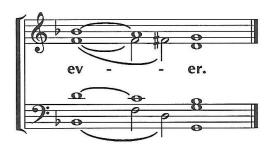
I will trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

(Verse) Why do you boast, O mighty man, of mischief done against

the godly?

I will trust in the mercy of God/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

The reading is from Genesis (Gen 7:6 - 9) Reader:

Reader:

Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him went into the ark, to escape the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah.

Wednesday of the Third Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon (Psalm 13 [14]:7)

Celebrant: Wisdom!

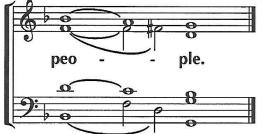
The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone. Reader:

When The Lord turns back the captivity of His people.

(Verse) The fool says in his heart, "There is no God".

When the Lord turns back/





Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 9:12 - 18) (RSV) Reader:

Reader:

If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it. A foolish woman is noisy; she is wanton and knows no shame. She sits at the door of her house, she takes a seat on the high places of the town, calling to those who pass by, who are going straight on their way, "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" And to him who is without sense she says, "Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant." But he does not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

Friday of the Third Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 107 [108]:12)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

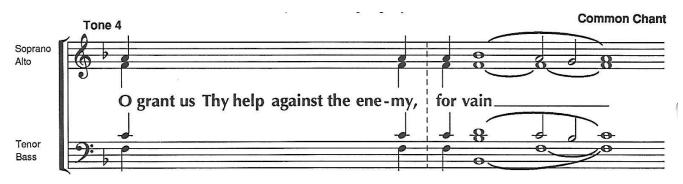
Celebrant: Wisdom!

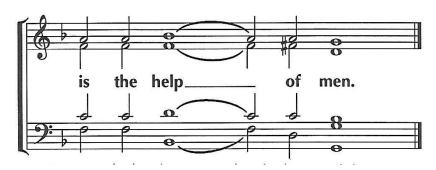
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

O, grant us Thy help against the enemy, for vain is the help of men.

(Verse) O God, Thou has rejected us, broken our defenses.

O, grant us help against the enemy/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 8:4 - 21) (RSV)

Reader:

and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest upon the mountains of Ar'arat. And the waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were seen. At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made, and sent forth a raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set her foot, and she returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put forth his hand and took her and brought her into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and lo, in her mouth a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent forth the dove; and she did not return to him any more. In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, "Go forth from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring forth with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh -- birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth -- that they may breed abundantly on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply upon the earth." So Noah went forth, and his sons and his wife and his sons' wives with him. And every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves upon the earth, went forth by families out of the ark. 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. And when the LORD smelled the pleasing odor, the LORD said in his heart, "I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.

Friday of the Third Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 60 [61]:1)

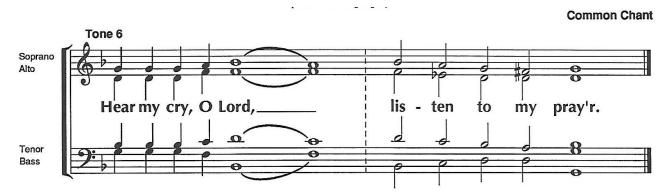
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

Hear my cry, O lord, listen to my prayer.

(Verse) From the end of the earth I call to Thee.

Hear my cry, O Lord/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 10:31 - 11:12) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut off. The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked, what is perverse. A false balance is an abomination to the LORD, but a just weight is his delight. When pride comes, then comes disgrace; but with the humble is wisdom. The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them. Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death. The righteousness of the blameless keeps his way straight, but the wicked falls by his own wickedness. The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the treacherous are taken captive by their lust. When the wicked dies, his hope perishes, and the expectation of the godless comes to naught.

The righteous is delivered from trouble, and the wicked gets into it instead. With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor, but by knowledge the righteous are delivered. When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; and when the wicked perish there are shouts of gladness. By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked. He who belittles his neighbor lacks sense, but a man of understanding remains silent.

Wednesday of the Fourth Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 71 [72]:18)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Celebrant: Wisdom!

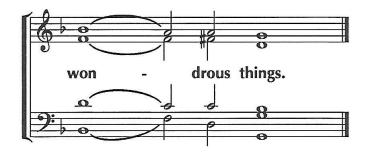
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

Blessed be The Lord, The God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

(Verse) Give the king Thy justice, O God, and Thy righteousness to the royal son.

Blessed be The Lord, The God of Israel/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 9:18 - 10:1) (RSV)

Reader:

The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan. These three were the sons of Noah; and from these the whole earth was peopled. Noah was the first tiller of the soil. He planted a vineyard; and he drank of the wine, and became drunk, and lay uncovered in his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brothers outside. Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it upon both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father; their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness. When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, he said, "Cursed be Canaan; a slave of slaves shall he be to his brothers." He also said, "Blessed by the LORD my God be Shem; and let Canaan be his slave." God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem; and let Canaan be his slave." After the flood Noah lived three hundred and fifty years. All the days of Noah were nine hundred and fifty years; and he died. These are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth; sons were born to them after the flood.

Wednesday of the Fourth Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 72 [73]:28)

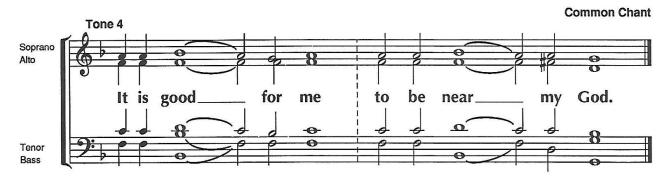
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

It is good for me to be near my God.

(Verse) Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

It is good for me/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 12:23 – 13:9) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

A prudent man conceals his knowledge, but fools proclaim their folly. The hand of the diligent will rule, while the slothful will be put to forced labor. Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad. A righteous man turns away from evil, but the way of the wicked leads them astray. A slothful man will not catch his prey, but the diligent man will get precious wealth. In the path of righteousness is life, but the way of error leads to death. A wise son hears his father's instruction, but a scoffer does not listen to rebuke. From the fruit of his mouth a good man eats good, but the desire of the treacherous is for violence. He who guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin. The soul of the sluggard craves, and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied. A righteous man hates falsehood, but a wicked man acts

shamefully and disgracefully. Righteousness guards him whose way is upright, but sin overthrows the wicked. One man pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth. The ransom of a man's life is his wealth, but a poor man has no means of redemption. The light of the righteous rejoices, but the lamp of the wicked will be put out.

Friday of the Fourth Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 79 [80]:1)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

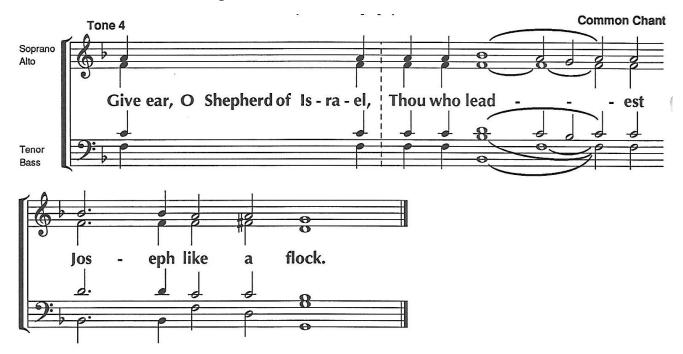
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, Thou who leadest Joseph like a flock.

(Verse) Thou Who art enthroned upon the Cherubim, shine forth.

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel/



Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 12:1 - 7) (RSV)

Reader:

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who curses you I will curse; and by you all the families of the earth shall bless themselves." So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sar'ai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions which they had gathered, and the persons that they had gotten in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

Friday of the Fourth Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 80 [81]:1)

Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

Rejoice in God, our Helper.

(Verse) Raise a song, sound the timbrel.

Rejoice in God/

Soprano Alto

Re-joice in God, our help - er.

Tenor Bass

Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 14:15 - 26) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader: The simple believes everything, but the prudent looks where he is going. A wise man is cautious and turns away from evil, but a fool throws off restraint and is careless. A man of quick temper acts foolishly, but a man of discretion is patient. The simple acquire folly, but the prudent are crowned with knowledge. The evil bow down before the good, the wicked at the gates of the righteous. The poor is disliked even by his neighbor, but the rich has many friends. He who despises his neighbor is a sinner, but happy is he who is kind to the poor. Do they not err that devise evil? Those who devise good meet loyalty and faithfulness. In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to want. The crown of the wise is their wisdom, but folly is the garland of fools. A truthful witness saves lives, but one who utters lies is a betrayer. In the fear of the LORD one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge.

Wednesday of the Fifth Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 93 [94]:1)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

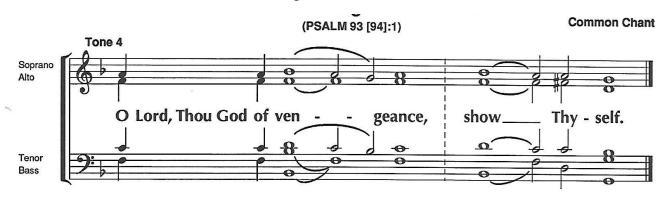
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4^{th} Tone.

O Lord, thou God of Vengeance, show Thyself.

(Verse) Rise up, o Judge of the earth; render to the proud their deserts.

O Lord, Thou God of vengeance/



Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 17:1 - 9) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and

kings shall come forth from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your descendants after you. And I will give to you, and to your descendants after you, the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God." And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you throughout their generations.

Wednesday of the Fifth Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 95 [96]:1)

Celebrant: Wisdom!

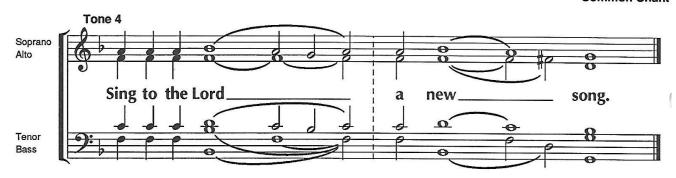
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

Sing to The Lord a new song.

(Verse) Sing to The Lord, bless His Name.

Sing to The Lord/

Common Chant



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 15:20 - 16:9) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish man despises his mother. Folly is a joy to him who has no sense, but a man of understanding walks aright. Without counsel plans go wrong, but with many advisers they succeed. To make an apt answer is a joy to a man, and a word in season, how good it is! The wise man's path leads upward to life, that he may avoid Sheol beneath. The LORD tears down the house of the proud, but maintains the widow's boundaries. The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD, the words of the pure are pleasing to him. He who is greedy for unjust gain makes trouble for his household, but he who hates bribes will live. The mind of the righteous ponders how to answer, but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things. The LORD is far from the wicked, but

he hears the prayer of the righteous. The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and good news refreshes the bones. He whose ear heeds wholesome admonition will abide among the wise. He who ignores instruction despises himself, but he who heeds admonition gains understanding. The fear of the LORD is instruction in wisdom, and humility goes before honor.

The plans of the mind belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the LORD. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirit. Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established. The LORD has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble. Everyone who is arrogant is an abomination to the LORD; be assured, he will not go unpunished. By loyalty and faithfulness iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the LORD a man avoids evil. When a man's ways please the LORD, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him. Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice. A man's mind plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps.

Thursday of the Fifth Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 98 [99]:5)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

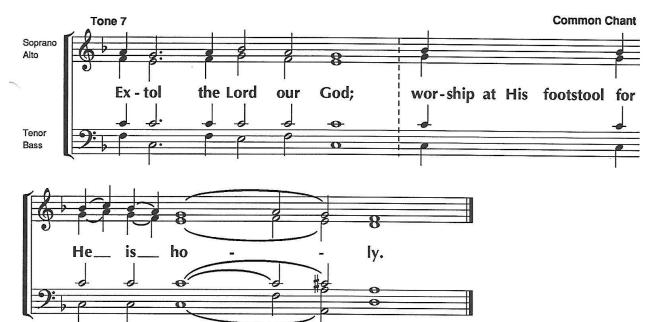
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 7th Tone.

Extol The Lord, our God, worship at His footstool for He is holy.

(Verse) The Lord reigns, let the peoples tremble.

Extol The Lord, our God/



Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 18:20 - 33) (RSV)

Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomor'rah is great and their sin is very grave, I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry which has come to me; and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom; but Abraham still stood before the LORD. Then Abraham drew near, and said, "Wilt thou indeed destroy the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; wilt thou then destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from thee to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from thee! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Behold, I have taken upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Wilt thou destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Behold, I have taken upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.

Thursday of the Fifth Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 99 [100]:1)

Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

Make a joyful noise to The Lord, all you lands.

(Verse) Serve The Lord with gladness.

Make a joyful noise to The Lord/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 16:17 - 17:17) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

The highway of the upright turns aside from evil; he who guards his way preserves his life. Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud. He who gives heed to the word will prosper, and happy is he who trusts in the LORD. The wise of heart is called a man of discernment, and pleasant speech increases persuasiveness. Wisdom is a fountain of life to him who has it, but folly is the chastisement of fools. The mind of the wise makes his speech judicious, and adds persuasiveness to his lips. Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body. There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death. A worker's appetite works for him; his mouth urges him on. A worthless man plots evil, and his speech is like a scorching fire. A perverse man

spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends. A man of violence entices his neighbor and leads him in a way that is not good. He who winks his eyes plans perverse things, he who compresses his lips brings evil to pass. A hoary head is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life. He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city. The lot is cast into the lap, but the decision is wholly from the LORD.

Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife. A slave who deals wisely will rule over a son who acts shamefully, and will share the inheritance as one of the brothers. The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold, and the LORD tries hearts. An evildoer listens to wicked lips; and a liar gives heed to a mischievous tongue. He who mocks the poor insults his Maker; he who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished. Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of sons is their fathers. Fine speech is not becoming to a fool; still less is false speech to a prince. A bribe is like a magic stone in the eyes of him who gives it; wherever he turns he prospers. He who forgives an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter alienates a friend. A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool. An evil man seeks only rebellion, and a cruel messenger will be sent against him. Let a man meet a she-bear robbed of her cubs, rather than a fool in his folly. If a man returns evil for good, evil will not depart from his house. The beginning of strife is like letting out water; so quit before the quarrel breaks out. He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the LORD. Why should a fool have a price in his hand to buy wisdom, when he has no mind? A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Friday of the Fifth Week

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 102 [103]:8)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

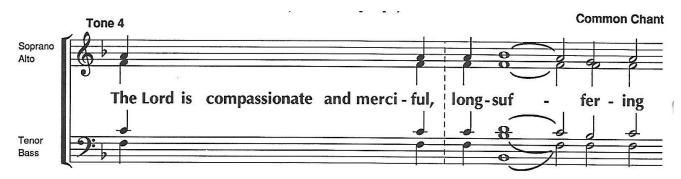
Celebrant: Wisdom!

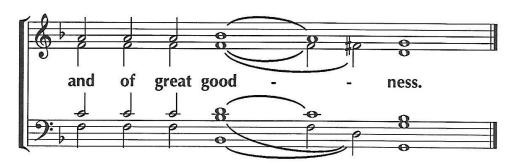
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness.

(Verse) Bless The Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless His Holy Name.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 22:1 - 18) (RSV)

After these things God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Mori'ah, and offer him there as a burnt offering upon one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; and he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the ass; I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood; but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. Then Abraham put forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the lad or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place The LORD will provide; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided." And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore. And your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your descendants shall all the nations of the earth bless themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Friday of the Fifth Week

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 103 [104]:24)

Celebrant: Wisdom!

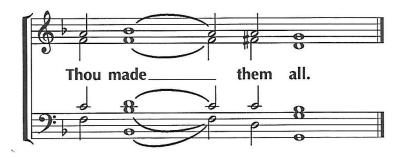
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works, in wisdom hast Thou made them all.

(Verse) Bless The Lord, O, my soul. O Lord, my God, Thou art very great.

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works/





Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 17:17 - 18:5) (RSV)

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. A man without sense gives a pledge, and becomes surety in the presence of his neighbor. He who loves transgression loves strife; he who makes his door high seeks destruction. A man of crooked mind does not prosper, and one with a perverse tongue falls into calamity. A stupid son is a grief to a father; and the father of a fool has no joy. A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones. A wicked man accepts a bribe from the bosom to pervert the ways of justice. A man of understanding sets his face toward wisdom, but the eyes of a fool are on the ends of the earth. A foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him. To impose a fine on a righteous man is not good; to flog noble men is wrong. He who restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.

He who is estranged seeks pretexts to break out against all sound judgment. A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion. When wickedness comes, contempt comes also; and with dishonor comes disgrace. The words of a man's mouth are deep waters; the fountain of wisdom is a gushing stream. It is not good to be partial to a wicked man, or to deprive a righteous man of justice.

Wednesday of the Week of Palms

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 115 [116]:9)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Celebrant: Wisdom!

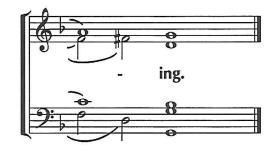
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

I will walk before The Lord in the land of the living.

(Verse) I love The Lord, because He has heard my voice and my supplication.

I will walk before The Lord/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 43:26-31; 45:1-16) (RSV)

When Joseph came home, they brought into the house to him the present which they had with them, and bowed down to him to the ground. And he inquired about their welfare, and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?" They said, "Your servant our father is well, he is still alive." And they bowed their heads and made obeisance. And he lifted up his eyes, and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your youngest brother, of whom you spoke to me? God be gracious to you, my son!" Then Joseph made haste, for his heart yearned for his brother, and he sought a place to weep. And he entered his chamber and wept there. Then he washed his face and came out; and controlling himself he said, "Let food be served."

Then Joseph could not control himself before all those who stood by him; and he cried, "Make every one go out from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept aloud, so that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph; is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, I pray you." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So 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 ruler over all the land of Egypt. Make haste 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; you shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have; and there I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come; lest you and your household, and all that you have, come to poverty.' And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father of all my splendor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Make haste and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept; and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house, "Joseph's brothers have come," it pleased Pharaoh and his servants well.

Wednesday of the Week of Palms

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 115 [116]:14)

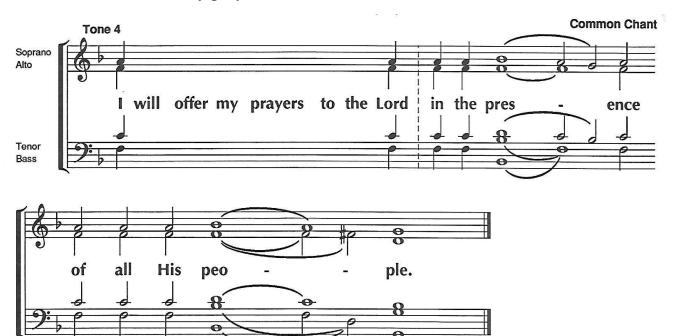
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

I will offer my prayers to The Lord in the presence of all His people.

(Verse) I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted."

I will offer my prayers to The Lord/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 21:23 – 22:4) (RSV)

He who keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble. "Scoffer" is the name of the proud, haughty man who acts with arrogant pride. The desire of the sluggard kills him for his hands refuse to labor. All day long the wicked covets, but the righteous gives and does not hold back. The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination; how much more when he brings it with evil intent. A false witness will perish, but the word of a man who hears will endure. A wicked man puts on a bold face, but an upright man considers his ways. No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel, can avail against the LORD. The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD.

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor meet together; the LORD is the maker of them all. A prudent man sees danger and hides himself; but the simple go on, and suffer for it. The reward for humility and fear of the LORD is riches and honor and life.

Friday of the Week of Palms

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 123 [124]:8)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

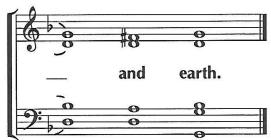
Our help is in The Name of The Lord Who made Heaven and Earth.

(Verse) If it had not been The Lord Who was on our side, let Israel

now say:

Our help is in The Name of The Lord/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Genesis (Gen 49:33 - 50:26) (RSV)

When Jacob ended his charge to his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.

Then Joseph fell on his father's face, and wept over him, and kissed him. And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel; forty days were required for it, for so many are required for embalming. And the Egyptians wept for him seventy days. And when the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph spoke to the household of Pharaoh, saying, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying, My father made me swear, saying, 'I am about to die: in my tomb which I hewed out for myself in the land of Canaan, there shall you bury me.' Now therefore let me go up, I pray you, and bury my father; then I will return." And Pharaoh answered, "Go up, and bury your father, as he made you swear." So Joseph went up to bury his father; and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his household, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, as well as all the household of Joseph, his brothers, and his father's household; only their children, their flocks, and their herds were left in the land of Goshen. And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen; it was a very great company. When they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond the Jordan, they lamented there with a very great and sorrowful lamentation; and he made a mourning for his father seven days. When the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning on the threshing floor of Atad, they said, "This is a grievous mourning to the Egyptians." Therefore the place was named A'belmizraim; it is beyond the Jordan. Thus his sons did for him as he had commanded them; for his sons carried him to the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field at Mach-pe'lah, to the east of Mamre, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite, to possess as a burying place. After he had buried his father, Joseph returned to Egypt with his brothers and all who had gone up with him to bury his father. When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil which we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, 'Say to Joseph, Forgive, I pray you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, we pray you, forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him, and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Fear not, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So

do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he reassured them and comforted them. So Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he and his father's house; and Joseph lived a hundred and ten years. And Joseph saw E'phraim's children of the third generation; the children also of Machir the son of Manas'seh were born upon Joseph's knees. And Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die; but God will visit you, and bring you up out of this land to the land which he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." Then Joseph took an oath of the sons of Israel, saying, "God will visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." So Joseph died, being a hundred and ten years old; and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Friday of the Week of Palms

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 124 [125]:1)

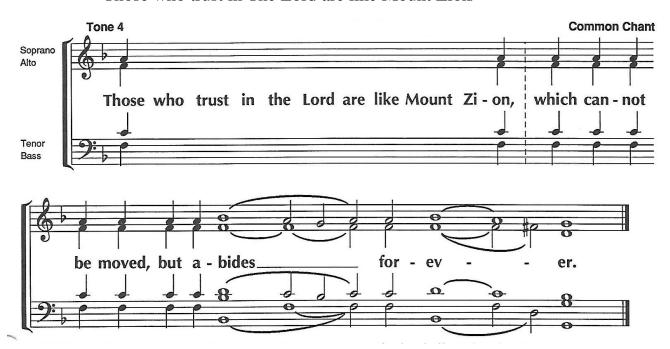
Celebrant: Wisdom!

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.

(Verse) For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest upon the land allotted to the righteous.

Those who trust in The Lord are like Mount Zion/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Proverbs (Prov 31:8 - 31) (RSV)

Open your mouth for the dumb, for the rights of all who are left desolate. Open your mouth, judge righteously, maintain the rights of the poor and needy. A good wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. She is like the ships of the merchant, she brings her food from afar. She rises while it is vet night and provides food for her household and tasks for her maidens. She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She girds her loins with strength and makes her arms strong. She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of snow for her household, for all her household are clothed in scarlet. She makes herself coverings; her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sits among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers girdles to the merchant. Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

Great and Holy Monday

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 127 [128]:5)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

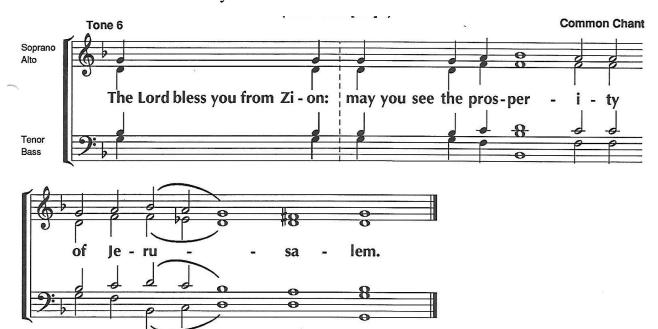
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

The Lord bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem.

(Verse) Blessed is everyone who fears The Lord, who walks in His ways.

The Lord bless you from Zion/



Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Exodus (Ex 1:1 - 20) (RSV)

These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each with his household: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah, Is'sachar, Zeb'ulun, and Benjamin, Dan and Naph'tali, Gad and Asher. All the offspring of Jacob were seventy persons; Joseph was already in Egypt. Then Joseph died, and all his brothers, and all that generation. But the descendants of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong; so that the land was filled with them. Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and, if war befall us, they join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens; and they built for Pharaoh store-cities, Pithom and Ra-am'ses. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad. And the Egyptians were in dread of the people of Israel. So they made the people of Israel serve with rigor, and made their lives bitter with hard service, in mortar and brick, and in all kinds of work in the field; in all their work they made them serve with rigor. Then the king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiph'rah and the other Pu'ah, "When you serve as midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the birthstool, if it is a son, you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, she shall live." But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the male children live. So the king of Egypt called the midwives, and said to them, "Why have you done this, and let the male children live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and are delivered before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and grew very strong.

Great and Holy Monday

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 128 [129]:8)

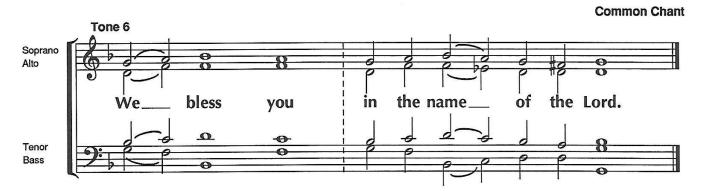
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

We bless you in The Name of The Lord.

(Verse) Sorely have they afflicted me from my youth.

We bless you/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Job (Job 1:1 - 12) (RSV)

Celebrant: Let us attend:

Reader:

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God, and turned away from evil. There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she-asses, and very many servants; so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east. His sons used to go and hold a feast in the house of each on his day; and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. And when the days of the feast had run their course, 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 continually. Now there was a day when the sons of God

came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. The LORD said to Satan, "Whence have you come?" Satan answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And 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, who fears God and turns away from evil?" Then Satan answered the LORD, "Does Job fear God for naught? Hast thou not put a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But put forth thy hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse thee to thy face." And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only upon himself do not put forth your hand." So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD.

[Gospel: Matthew 24:3 - 35]

Great and Holy Tuesday

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 131 [132]:8)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

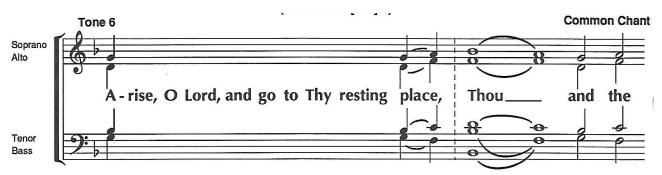
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 6^{th} Tone.

Arise, O Lord, and go to Thy resting place, Thou and the ark of Thy might.

(Verse) Remember, O Lord, in David's favor, all the hardships he endured.

Arise, O lord, and go to Thy resting place/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Exodus (Ex 2:5 - 10) (RSV)

Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, and her maidens walked beside the river; she saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to fetch it. When she opened it she saw the child; and lo, the babe was crying. She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother. And 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. And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son; and she named him Moses, for she said, "Because I drew him out of the water."

Great and Holy Tuesday

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 132 [133]:1)

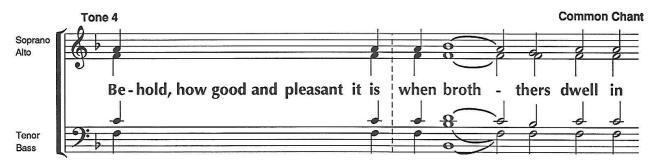
Celebrant: Wisdom!

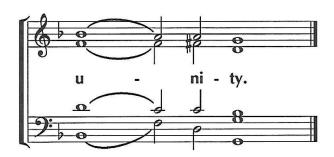
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity.

(Verse) It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron.

Behold, how good and pleasant it is/





Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Job (Job 1:13 - 22) (RSV)

Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house; and there came a messenger to Job, and said, "The oxen were plowing and the asses feeding beside them; and the Sabe'ans fell upon them and took them, and slew the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another, 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." While he was yet speaking, there came another, and said, "The Chalde'ans formed three companies, and made a raid upon the camels and took them, and slew the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you." While he was yet speaking, there came another, and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house; and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness, and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you." Then Job arose, and rent his robe, and shaved his head, and fell upon the ground, and worshiped. And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return; the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong.

Great and Holy Wednesday

The 1st Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 135 [136]:26)

Celebrant: Let us attend! Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to your spirit.

Celebrant: Wisdom!

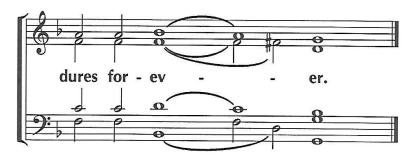
Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

O give thanks to The God of Heaven, for His steadfast love endures forever.

(Verse) O, give thanks to The God of gods, for His steadfast love endures forever.

O, give thanks to The God of Heaven/





Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading is from Exodus (Ex 2:11-22) (RSV)

One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. He looked this way and that, and seeing no one he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. When he went out the next day, behold, two Hebrews were struggling together; and he said to the man that did the wrong, "Why do you strike your fellow?" He answered, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid, and thought, "Surely the thing is known." When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh, and stayed in the land of Mid'ian; and he sat down by a well. Now the priest of Mid'ian had seven daughters; and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. The shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. When they came to their father Reu'el, he said, "How is it that you have come so soon today?" They said, "An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and even drew water for us and watered the flock." He said to his daughters, "And where is he? Why have you left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread." And Moses was content to dwell with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zippo'rah. She bore a son, and he called his name Gershom; for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land."

Great and Holy Wednesday

The 2nd Evening Prokeimenon

(Psalm 137 [138]:8)

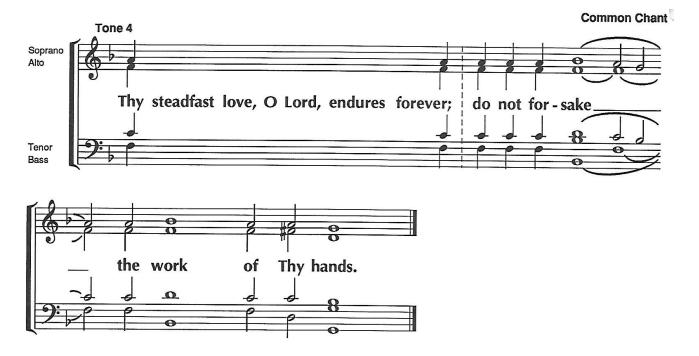
Celebrant: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon is in the 4th Tone.

Thy steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever: do not forsake the work of Thy hands.

(Verse) I give Thee thanks, O lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing Thy praise.

Thy steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever/



Celebrant: Wisdom! Let us attend! The Light of Christ illumines all.

Reader: The reading is from Job (Job 2:1 - 10) (RSV)

Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD. And the LORD said to Satan, "Whence have you come?" Satan answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." And 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, who fears God and turns away from evil? He still holds fast his integrity, although you moved me against him, to destroy him without cause." Then Satan answered the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that a man has he will give for his life. But put forth thy hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face." And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your power; only spare his life." So Satan went forth from the presence of the LORD, and afflicted Job with loathsome sores from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. And he took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

[Gospel: Matthew 26:6-16]