

**On Wednesday Evening  
of the Fourth Week 2015**

**CHOIR**

**Mode 4.**

Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Hear me, O Lord. Lord, I have cried to You; hear me. Give heed to the voice of my supplication when I cry to You. Hear me, O Lord.

Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. Hear me, O Lord.

**From the Triodion.**

**Sticheron Idiomelon. Tone 4.**

*Bring my soul out of prison to give thanks to Your name, O Lord.*

The fast, the means of receiving blessings, has now led us half-way through its course, pleasing God with the days that are past and proposing purposeful tasks for the days ahead, for the increase of blessings produces a greater number of good deeds! Therefore let us cry to Christ, the giver of all blessings: You fasted and endured the Cross for our sake: enable us to partake uncondemned of your divine Pascha, to lead our lives in peace, worthily glorifying you with the Father and the Spirit.

*The righteous shall wait for me, until You reward me.*

Those who thirst for spiritual blessings perform their good deeds in secret, not noising them abroad in markets, but cherishing and keeping them in their hearts. For he who sees all that is done in secret will reward us for our abstinence. Let us fulfill the

fast without sad faces, but ceaselessly praying in the depths of our hearts: Our Father, in heaven, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil!

**For the Martyrs.**

*Out of the depths I have cried to You, O Lord. O Lord, hear my voice.*

Your souls filled with unquenchable love, you endured the most terrible sufferings without denying Christ, and cast down the tyrant's pride. You who kept the faith unchanged and unharmed have gone to dwell in heaven. Since you have boldness before the Lord, pray that he may grant us great mercy!

**Stichera Prosomia. By Joseph.**

**Tone 1.**

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

Let us cleanse our souls with the water of the fast. Let us draw near to the precious and pure Cross of the Lord, venerating it in faith and drawing divine enlightenment; even now obtaining eternal salvation, peace and great mercy.

*If You, O Lord, should mark transgression, O Lord, who would stand? For there is forgiveness with You.*

Cross, boast of Apostles, surrounded by Principalities, Powers and Archangels! Save those who bow before you from all harm, and enable us to fulfill well the divine course of abstinence; to attain to the saving day, by which we are saved!

**Another. By Theodore.**

*Because of Your law, O Lord, I waited for You; my soul waited for Your word. My soul hopes in the Lord.*

Today, as we bow before the Cross of the Lord, let us cry: rejoice, tree of life, the tormentor of hell! Rejoice, joy of the world, the destroyer of corruption! Rejoice, power which drives out demons! Rejoice, confirmation of the faithful, invincible weapon! Preserve and sanctify those who kiss you.

**From the Menaion.**

**Thursday, March 19, 2015**

**Mode 4. You have given.**

*From the morning watch until night; from the morning watch until night, let Israel hope in the Lord.*

The eyes of your heart, O wise one, were illumined when you received \* in your soul the enlightenment \* of knowledge divine, O Saint, \* and wisely departed \* from the gloom of error, \* and you confessed your faith in Christ \* the Lord of all who has taken flesh for us. \* From this you were empowered by the Spirit's power, O Chrysanthos, \* being shone forth superior \* to the torments, all-lauded one.

*For with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his transgressions.*

The eyes of your heart, O wise one, were illumined when you received \* in your soul the enlightenment \* of knowledge divine, O Saint, \* and wisely departed \* from the gloom

of error, \* and you confessed your faith in Christ \* the Lord of all who has taken flesh for us. \* From this you were empowered by the Spirit's power, O Chrysanthos, \* being shone forth superior \* to the torments, all-lauded one.

*Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles; praise Him, all you peoples.*

You disdained the foe's enticements and propellants to pleasure as \* nothing more than a spider's web. \* When you were imprisoned in \* darkness, the divine light \* shone about you brightly, \* and a noetic fragrant scent \* suffused you, though you were standing in the midst \* of mire. As an excellent groomsman, you brought forward Dareia, \* who was quick to resemble you, \* unto Christ as a spotless bride.

*For His mercy rules over us; and the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

Smitten with the sweetest eros of the Maker were you, O Saint, \* so you utterly turned away \* from deceptive godlessness, \* and you went within the \* divine bridal chamber, \* being yourself betrothed to Christ \* through all the bodily tortures you endured. \* O Dareia, your name is great; the Spirit's vessel divine are you, \* and the pride of the martyr saints, \* and the joy of the virgin maids.

Glory. Both now. **For the Cross.**

Today, He who is unapproachable in His essence becomes approachable to me; and He is suffering the Passion, thus freeing me from the passions. He who gives sight to the blind is spit on by lawless lips, and He takes

a whipping on the back for the sake of us captives. When His pure Mother saw Him on the Cross, in pain she uttered, "Woe is me, my Child! Why have You done this! You who are more beautiful than all men, I see You not breathing, unsightly, without form or beauty. Woe is me, my Light! I cannot bear to see You sleeping. I am wounded to the core, and an awful sword is piercing my heart. I extol Your Passion, I worship Your compassion. O longsuffering Lord, glory to You!"

### DEACON

Wisdom! Arise!

### READER

Gladsome light of holy glory of the holy, blessed, heavenly, immortal Father, O Jesus Christ: arriving at the hour of sunset and having seen the evening light, we praise the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God. It is worthy for You to be praised at all times with happy voices, O Son of God and Giver of life; and therefore the world glorifies You.

### PRIEST

The evening...

### THE READINGS

### READER

*Prokeimenon. Mode 4. Psalm 71 (72).*

And blessed is the name of His glory forever and unto ages of ages, and all the earth shall be filled with His glory. Amen! Amen!

*O God, give Your judgments to the King, and Your righteousness to the King's Son.*

The reading is from Genesis.

### PRIEST

Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

### READER

*9:18-29 and 10:1*

These are the sons of Noë, who came out of the ark, Sem, Cham and Iapheth; Cham was the father of Canaan. These are the three sons of Noë; from these were men scattered over all the earth. And Noë began to be a farmer of the land, and he planted a vine; and he drank of the wine and became drunk and lay naked in his house. And Cham the father of Canaan saw the nakedness of his father and went out and told his two brothers outside. And Sem and Iapheth took a garment and put it on both their backs and walked backwards and covered up the nakedness of their father; and with their face backwards they did not see the nakedness of their father. But Noë awoke from the wine and realized what his younger son had done and he said, Canaan is accursed; he shall be a servant boy to his brothers. And he said, 'Blessed is Sem, and Canaan shall be his servant boy. May God broaden Iapheth, and may he dwell in the houses of Sem and let Canaan be his servant'. Noë lived three hundred and fifty years after the flood. And all the days of Noë were nine hundred and fifty years, and he died. These are the generations of the sons of Noë: Sem, Cham and Iapheth, and sons were born to them after the flood. (*Lash*)

*Prokeimenon. Mode 4. Psalm 72 (73).*

But as for me, it is good to cling to God, to put my hope in the Lord, that I may proclaim all Your praises In the gates of the daughter of Zion.

*How good God is to Israel, to the upright in heart.*

*(sung)*

Command!

### PRIEST

Wisdom! Arise! The light of Christ shines upon all.

**READER**

The reading is from Proverbs.

**PRIEST**

Wisdom! Let us be attentive!

**READER**

*12:23-28 and 13:1-9*

A man of understanding is a throne of perception, but the heart of fools will encounter curses. The hand of chosen ones will easily obtain might, but the deceitful will be for prey. A fearful word troubles the heart of the just, but a good message makes him glad. A just arbitrator will his own friend, but the opinions of the ungodly are unfair. Evils will pursue those who sin, while the way of the ungodly will lead them astray. The deceitful will catch no wild game, but a pure man is a precious possession. In ways of righteousness is life, but ways of those who remember wrongs lead to death. A clever son is obedient to his father, but a disobedient son is for destruction. The good eats from the fruits of justice, but the souls of transgressors perish unripe. One who guards his mouth will preserve his own soul, but one that has hasty lips will terrify himself. Every idle person lives in desires, but the hands of the brave are diligent. The just hates an unjust word, but the ungodly is put to shame and will not have boldness to speak. Justice guards the innocent, while sin makes the impious worthless. There are those who enrich themselves, though they have nothing, and there are those who humble themselves amid great wealth. His own wealth is a ransom of a man's life, but the poor does not undergo threatening. There is always light for the just, but light is quenched for the ungodly. Deceitful souls go astray in sins, but the just show pity and mercy. (*Lash*)

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