

Friday in the 3rd Week - At Vespers

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 4th Tone— Give us help from affliction, for vain is the salvation of man. (Psalm 59)

Give us help from af-flic-tion, for vain is the sal-va - tion of man.

Stichos: O God, Thou hast cast us off and hast destroyed us.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from Genesis. (8:4-21)

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: And the water continued to decrease until the tenth month. And in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the heads of the mountains were seen. And it came to pass after forty days Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made. And he sent forth a raven; and it went forth and returned not until the water was dried from off the earth. And he sent a dove after it to see if the water had ceased from off the earth. And the dove not having found rest for her feet, returned to him into the ark, because the water was on all the face of the earth and he stretched out his hand and took her, and brought her to himself into the ark. And having waited yet seven other days, he again sent forth the dove from the ark. And the dove returned to him in the evening and had a leaf of olive, a sprig in her mouth; and Noah knew that the water had ceased from off the earth. And having waited yet seven other days, he again sent forth the dove, and she did not return to him again any more. And it came to pass in the six hundred and first year of the life of Noah, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water subsided from off the earth and Noah opened the covering of the ark which he had made, and he saw that the water had subsided from the face of the earth. And in the second month the earth was dried, on the twenty-seventh day of the month. And the Lord God spoke to Noah, saying, Come out from the ark, thou and thy wife and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. And all the wild beasts as many as are with thee and all flesh both of birds and beasts and every reptile moving upon the earth, bring forth with thee: and increase ye and multiply upon the earth. And Noah came forth, and his wife and his sons, and his sons' wives with him. And all the wild beasts and all the cattle and every bird, and every reptile creeping upon the earth after their kind, came forth out of the ark. And Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of all clean beasts, and of all clean birds, and offered a whole burnt offering upon the altar. And the Lord God smelled a

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smell of sweetness, and the Lord God having considered, said, I will not any more curse the earth, because of the works of men, because the imagination of man is intently bent upon evil things from his youth, I will not therefore any more smite all living flesh as I have done.

Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 6th Tone— Hearken, O God, unto my supplication; attend unto my prayer. (*Psalm 60*)

Hearken, O God unto my supplication; at - tend

un - - - to my prayer.

Stichos: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise is meet for the upright.

Deacon: Command:

Priest: Wisdom! Aright! The Light of Christ...
(*Prostration by all as Priest exclaims, holding the candle and censer in-between the Royal doors, facing the people*)

Deacon: Wisdom!

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

Reader: The mouth of the righteous drops wisdom: but the tongue of the unjust shall perish. The lips of just men drop grace: but the mouth of the ungodly is perverse. False balances are an abomination before the Lord: but a just weight is acceptable unto him. Wherever pride enters, there will be also disgrace: but the mouth of the lowly meditates wisdom. When a just man dies he leaves regret: but the destruction of the ungodly is speedy, and causes joy. Righteousness traces out blameless paths: but ungodliness encounters unjust dealing. The righteousness of upright men delivers them: but transgressors are caught in their own destruction. At the death of a just man his hope does not perish: but the boast of the ungodly perishes. A righteous man escapes from a snare, and the ungodly man is delivered up in his place. In the mouth of ungodly men is a snare to citizens: but the understanding of righteous men is prosperous. In the prosperity of righteous men a city prospers: but by the mouths of ungodly men it is overthrown. A man void of understanding sneers at his fellow citizens: but a sensible man is quiet.