

SUNDAY ENTERING THE FAST OF MAR ELIJAH

The Anthem of the Chancel

Bless the Lord, you his angels.

Companies of angels in unanimity glorify the worshipful nature.

Let them praise your name for ever.

Companies of angels in unanimity glorify the worshipful nature.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; from everlasting, and for ever and ever. Amen.

Companies of angels in unanimity glorify the worshipful nature.

The Lections

Deuteronomy 6:20-7:5

"When your son asks you in time to come, 'What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the ordinances which the LORD our God has commanded you?' then you shall say to your son, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand; and the LORD showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes; and he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land which he swore to give to our fathers. And the LORD commanded

us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as at this day. And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us.'

"When the LORD your God brings you into the land which you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than yourselves, and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them; then you must utterly destroy them; you shall make no covenant with them, and show no mercy to them. You shall not make marriages with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons. For they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods; then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars, and dash in pieces their pillars, and hew down their Asherim, and burn their graven images with fire."

Isaiah 31

Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help
and rely on horses,
who trust in chariots because they are many
and in horsemen because they are very strong,
but do not look to the Holy One of Israel
or consult the LORD!

And yet he is wise and brings disaster,
he does not call back his words,
but will arise against the house of the evildoers,
and against the helpers of those who work
iniquity.

The Egyptians are men, and not God;
and their horses are flesh, and not spirit.
When the LORD stretches out his hand,
the helper will stumble, and he who is helped
will fall,
and they will all perish together.

For thus the LORD said to me,
As a lion or a young lion growls over his prey,
and when a band of shepherds is called forth
against him
is not terrified by their shouting
or daunted at their noise,
so the LORD of hosts will come down
to fight upon Mount Zion and upon its hill.
Like birds hovering, so the LORD of hosts
will protect Jerusalem;
he will protect and deliver it,
he will spare and rescue it.

Turn to him from whom you have deeply revolted, O
people of Israel. For in that day every one shall cast away
his idols of silver and his idols of gold, which your hands
have sinfully made for you.

"And the Assyrian shall fall by a sword, not of man;
and a sword, not of man, shall devour him;

and he shall flee from the sword,
and his young men shall be put to forced labor.
His rock shall pass away in terror,
and his officers desert the standard in panic,"
says the LORD, whose fire is in Zion,
and whose furnace is in Jerusalem.

The Shuraya

He said that he would destroy them—
Had it not been for Moses, his chosen one,
Who stood in the breach before him
And turned away his wrath from destroying them.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
From everlasting, and for ever and ever. Amen.

The Apostle

2 Thessalonians 1

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ.

We are bound to give thanks to God always for you,
brethren, as is fitting, because your faith is growing
abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another
is increasing. Therefore we ourselves boast of you in the

churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions which you are enduring.

This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be made worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering—since indeed God deems it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to grant rest with us to you who are afflicted, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance upon those who do not know God and upon those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They shall suffer the punishment of eternal destruction and exclusion from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at in all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed. To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his call, and may fulfil every good resolve and work of faith by his power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Zumara

Sing to the Lord, who rides in the heavens of heavens. From the East he sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.

His power is in the heavens of heavens. You are terrible, O God, from your sanctuary. The God of Israel will give power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!

The Gospel

St. Luke 18:35-19:10

As [Jesus] drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

He entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded

any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

The Anthem of the Mysteries

Text: Everything is ready: come to the feast. Take delight, O nations, with his people.

Glorify the Lord in his Sanctuary; lift up your hands to the Sanctuary and bless the Lord.

Behold, the Table is prepared in the Holy of Holies, and the glorious priests surround it as a type of the seraphim. A priest calls the Spirit, and he descends and dwells upon the bread and is mingled with the cup, and it is made the medicine of life. Mortals draw near and receive the pardon which destroys sin and cry out to him, "Holy, holy, holy is our Life-giver!"

Your children surround your table like the planting of a vineyard.

Behold, the Table is prepared in the Holy of Holies, and the glorious priests surround it as a type of the seraphim. A priest calls the Spirit, and he descends and dwells upon the bread and is mingled with the cup, and it is made the medicine of life. Mortals draw near and receive the pardon which destroys sin and cry out to him, "Holy, holy, holy is our Life-giver!"

The Anthem of the Bema

Let us draw near and receive from the spiritual Table the Body and Blood of Christ for the pardon of debts. Great is the Mystery, which is filled with delights and an earnest of life without end. He who receives it in love is pardoned by it and is made an heir of the Kingdom, according to the word of our Lord, hallelujah!

Verses:

O sinners, participate in this Mystery, by which you may acquire your life and the pardon of your debts. Great is the Mystery of life hidden within it, endowing those who are made worthy of it with all benefits. In purity of heart let us draw near and be pardoned by it, our thoughts being cleansed and our scars healed, hallelujah!