

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE APOSTLES

Anthem of the Chancel

I will bless the Lord at all times.

Blessed is he who makes us worthy to hallow his name with the companies on high.

At all times his praises will be in my mouth.

Blessed is he who makes us worthy to hallow his name with the companies on high.

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

Let us lift up glory and confession to the Son who saved us by his Cross.

The Lections

Isaiah 1:21-end

How the faithful city has become a harlot, she that was full of justice!

Righteousness lodged in her, but now murderers.

Your silver has become dross, your wine mixed with water.

Your princes are rebels and companions of thieves.

Every one loves a bribe and runs after gifts.

They do not defend the fatherless, and the widow's cause does not come to them.

Therefore the Lord says, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel:

"Ah, I will vent my wrath on my enemies, and avenge myself on my foes.

I will turn my hand against you and will smelt away your dross as with lye and remove all your alloy.

And I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning.

Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city."

Zion shall be redeemed by justice,

and those in her who repent, by righteousness.

But rebels and sinners shall be destroyed together, and those who forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

For you shall be ashamed of the oaks in which you delighted; and you shall blush for the gardens which you have chosen.

For you shall be like an oak whose leaf withers, and like a garden without water.

And the strong shall become tow, and his work a spark, and both of them shall burn together, with none to quench them.

The Shuraya

They feared their idols, which became a snare to them. *

They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons; *

They poured out innocent blood, *

The blood of their sons and daughters. *

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit *

From everlasting, and for ever and ever. Amen. *

The Apostle

1 Corinthians 14:1-19

Make love your aim, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. On the other hand, he who prophesies speaks to men for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy. He who prophesies is greater than he who speaks in tongues, unless some one interprets, so that the church may be edified.

Now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how shall I benefit you unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching? If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will any one know what is played? And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? So with yourselves; if you in a tongue utter speech that is not intelligible, how will any one know what is said? For you will be speaking into

the air. There are doubtless many different languages in the world, and none is without meaning; but if I do not know the meaning of the language, I shall be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me. So with yourselves; since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, strive to excel in building up the church.

Therefore, he who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret. For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful. What am I to do? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also. Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how can any one in the position of an outsider say the "Amen" to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? For you may give thanks well enough, but the other man is not edified. I thank God that I speak in tongues more than you all; nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind, in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

The Zumara

For ever you are LORD, and your word stands in the heavens, and your faithfulness unto all generations. You have established the earth and made it to stand. *

If your law had not been my meditation, I should have perished in my affliction. I will never forget your commandments; for by them is my life. *

The Gospel

Luke 12:16-34

And [Jesus] told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns, and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they

be?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

And he said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat, nor about your body, what you shall put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a cubit to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass which is alive in the field today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O men of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be of anxious mind. For all the nations of the world seek these things; and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things shall be yours as well.

"Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your

possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

Anthem of the Mysteries

Text: Do not judge with respect of person, and do not let iniquity issue from your mouth.

Blessed are those who are spotless in the way.

O wise stewards and leaders of the Church, administer the riches of grace with which you have been entrusted. Administer equally without respect of persons. Administer justice and pursue equity. Be like servants who await their master, who with caution observe his commands.

Administer justice to the orphans and the afflicted.

O wise stewards and leaders of the Church, administer the riches of grace with which you have been entrusted. Administer equally without respect of persons. Administer justice and pursue equity. Be like servants who await their master, who with caution observe his commands.

Anthem of the Bema

Those who were celebrated fixed their eyes on the land of light, and they entered and observed the ineffable delight which Christ has prepared for the friends of his love who have undergone and endured every torment and every affliction.

Verses:

Through temporal sufferings the Saints acquired the Kingdom on high, and they did not consider anything in creation its equal. Let us, my brethren, imitate the sufferings which they endured that we may enter with them the indestructible Kingdom.