

SECOND SUNDAY OF ELIJAH

The Anthem of the Chancel

Let them praise your name for ever.

Blessed is the renewal which our Savior brought about for the race of mortals.

How good and how beautiful.

Blessed is the renewal which our Savior brought about for the race of mortals.

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

Blessed is the renewal which our Savior brought about for the race of mortals.

The Lections

Deuteronomy 7:7-11

It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love upon you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples; but it is because the LORD loves you, and is keeping the oath which he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, and requites to their face those who hate him, by destroying them; he will not be slack with him who hates

him, he will requite him to his face. You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment, and the statutes, and the ordinances, which I command you this day.

Isaiah 30:15-26

For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel,
 "In returning and rest you shall be saved;
 in quietness and in trust shall be your strength."
And you would not, but you said,
"No! We will speed upon horses,"
 therefore you shall speed away;
and, "We will ride upon swift steeds,"
 therefore your pursuers shall be swift.
A thousand shall flee at the threat of one,
 at the threat of five you shall flee,
till you are left
 like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain,
 like a signal on a hill.

Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you;
 therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you.
For the LORD is a God of justice;
 blessed are all those who wait for him.

Yea, O people in Zion who dwell at Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when he hears it, he will answer you. And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself any more, but your eyes shall see your Teacher. And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left. Then you will defile your

silver-covered graven images and your gold-plated molten images. You will scatter them as unclean things; you will say to them, "Begone!"

And he will give rain for the seed with which you sow the ground, and grain, the produce of the ground, which will be rich and plenteous. In that day your cattle will graze in large pastures; and the oxen and the asses that till the ground will eat salted provender, which has been winnowed with shovel and fork. And upon every lofty mountain and every high hill there will be brooks running with water, in the day of the great slaughter, when the towers fall. Moreover the light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be sevenfold, as the light of seven days, in the day when the LORD binds up the hurt of his people, and heals the wounds inflicted by his blow.

The Shuraya

To you, O LORD, I have lifted up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust, let me not be put to shame;
Let not my enemies exult over me.
Yea, let none that hope in you be put to shame.
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 2:15-3:18

So then, brethren, stand firm and hold to the traditions which you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by letter.

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed on and triumph, as it did among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men; for not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from evil. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things which we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is living in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, we did not eat any one's bread without paying, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not burden any of you. It was not because we have not that right, but to give you in our conduct an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: If any one will not work, let him not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work in quietness and to earn their own living. Brethren, do not be weary in well-doing.

If any one refuses to obey what we say in this letter, note that man, and have nothing to do with him, that he may be ashamed. Do not look on him as an enemy, but warn him as a brother.

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with you all.

I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the mark in every letter of mine; it is the way I write. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

The Zumara

Be gracious to me, O God, for men trample upon me; all day long the warlike oppress me;

My enemies trample upon me all day long, for a multitude of the warlike have exalted themselves over me.

The Gospel

St. Matthew 13:1-23

. Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away. Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear."

Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" And he answered them, "To you it has been

given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to him who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah which says:

'You shall indeed hear but never understand,
and you shall indeed see but never perceive.
For this people's heart has grown dull,
and their ears are heavy of hearing,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should perceive with their eyes,
and hear with their ears,
and understand with their heart,
and turn for me to heal them.'

But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When any one hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in his heart; this is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is he who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the delight in riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is he who hears the word

and understands it; he indeed bears fruit, and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Anthem of the Mysteries

Text: In the fearful presence of the Lord and of the glory of his power. It is a great terror to fall into the hands of the living God.

Praise the Lord in the heavens, you his ministers who do his will.

In awe and joy all the companies of heavenly and earthly beings stand when the sacrifice for the life of the world is offered; and spreading their wings before their eyes that they might not observe the fearful and incomprehensible sight, they cry aloud with their voices, and their tongues call out, saying, "Holy, holy, you are holy, O Lord." For this fearful gift you have given us, that by it we might be absolved of our debts, grant us, O my Lord, in your compassion, and make us worthy in your grace, to offer thanksgiving to you and to say, 'Glory to you!'"

There they were in great fear.

In awe and joy all the companies of heavenly and earthly beings stand when the sacrifice for the life of the world is offered; and spreading their wings before their eyes that they might not observe the fearful and incomprehensible sight, they cry aloud with their voices, and their tongues call out, saying, "Holy, holy, you are holy, O Lord." For this fearful gift you have given us, that by it we might be absolved of our debts, grant us, O my Lord, in your compassion, and make us worthy in your grace, to offer thanksgiving to you and to say, 'Glory to you!'"

The Anthem of the Bema

Response:

Glory to the three-fold power which dwells in the light, Nature without beginning, who exists eternally. Nothing which is made can relate the holiness of his honor. Thousands upon thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand of the companies on high hallow his honor in fear and trembling.

They all cry out as one, "You are holy, you are holy, you are holy, O hidden Being, hallelujah!"

Verses:

The fiery ranks and heavenly hosts, the seraphim and cherubim, in fear and trembling, and with love and affection, hallow him eagerly, and with spiritual wings cover the countenance of their faces that they might not observe the fearful and incomprehensible sight.

They all cry out as one, "You are holy, you are holy, you are holy, O hidden Being, hallelujah!"