

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

Anthem of the Chancel

Our God is a mighty place of refuge.

It is the time of salvation, when we may hope in God and be delivered from the sins and mistakes we have committed in this world, and may receive the forgiveness of sins.

And our helper in times of affliction.

It is the time of salvation, when we may hope in God and be delivered from the sins and mistakes we have committed in this world, and may receive the forgiveness of sins.

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

Be watchful always, girding up your loins, and at every hour light your flaming lamps, that you may be deemed worthy of the blessing which he promised to the good servants whom he finds watching when he comes.

The Lections

Joshua 9:15-end

And Joshua made peace with [the Gibeonites], and made a covenant with them, to let them live; and the leaders of the congregation swore to them.

At the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, they heard that they were their neighbors, and that they

dwelt among them. And the people of Israel set out and reached their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriathjearim. But the people of Israel did not kill them, because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel. Then all the congregation murmured against the leaders. But all the leaders said to all the congregation, "We have sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, and now we may not touch them. This we will do to them, and let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we swore to them." And the leaders said to them, "Let them live." So they became hewers of wood and drawers of water for all the congregation, as the leaders had said of them.

Joshua summoned them, and he said to them, "Why did you deceive us, saying, 'We are very far from you,' when you dwell among us? Now therefore you are cursed, and some of you shall always be slaves, hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God." They answered Joshua, "Because it was told to your servants for a certainty that the LORD your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you; so we feared greatly for our lives because of you, and did this thing. And now, behold, we are in your hand: do as it seems good and right in your sight to do to us." So he did to them, and delivered them out of the hand of the people of Israel; and they did not kill them. But Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, to continue to this day, in the place which he should choose.

The Shuraya

All the kings of the earth shall confess you, O LORD, *
For they have heard the word of your mouth; *
And they shall praise the ways of the LORD, *
For great is the honor of the LORD. *
High is the LORD, who sees in the depths; *
And he who is haughty he knows from afar. *
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; *
From everlasting, and for ever and ever. Amen. *

The Apostle

Romans 12

I appeal to you brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I bid every one among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith which God has assigned him. For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the

grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; never be conceited. Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Zumara

I have washed my hands in innocence,
And gone about your altar, O LORD,
That I may hear the sound of your praise,
And tell of all your wonders. *

O LORD, I have loved the service of your house,
And the dwelling-place of your glory.
Sweep me not away with sinners,
Nor my life with bloodthirsty men. *

The Gospel

John 7:37-end; 8:12-20

On the last day of the feast [of Tabernacles], the great day, Jesus stood up and proclaimed, "If any one thirst, let him come to me and drink. He who believes in me, as the scripture has said, 'Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the scripture said that the Christ is descended from David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

The officers then went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No man ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Are you led astray, you also? Have any of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, who do not know the law, are accursed." Nicodemus, who had

gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and you will see that no prophet is to rise from Galilee." . . .

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." The Pharisees then said to him, "You are bearing witness to yourself; your testimony is not true." Jesus answered, "Even if I do bear witness to myself, my testimony is true, for I know whence I have come and whither I am going, but you do not know whence I come or whither I am going. You judge according to the flesh, I judge no one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is true, for it is not I alone that judge, but I and he who sent me. In your law it is written that the testimony of two men is true; I bear witness to myself, and the Father who sent me bears witness to me." They said to him therefore, "Where is your Father?" Jesus answered, "You know neither me nor my Father; if you knew me, you would know my Father also." These words he spoke in the treasury, as he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

Anthem of the Mysteries

We will confess you for ever.

Our human race will give thanks to you, for in your compassion you have made it worthy of your gift, and with the spiritual companies we will hallow your honor and receive your Body, which quickens our mortality.

For your loving-kindness and for your truth.

Our human race will give thanks to you, for in your compassion you have made it worthy of your gift, and with the spiritual companies we will hallow your honor and receive your Body, which quickens our mortality.

Anthem of the Bema

In holy Church let us confess Christ, who gave us his Body.

Verses:

The nation slew the living Lamb, but the nations came and were made glad. They rose up and killed, and prepared beforehand judgment for themselves and delight for us.

Glorify the Lord in his Sanctuary,
Christ, who gave us his Body.

The manna did not become corrupt in the pot for the keeper of the commandment. Come, let us receive the Holy Thing by which the foul odor of Adam's name became sweet.

Glorify him in the firmament of his power,
Christ, who gave us his Body.