



# HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

## Parish Newsletter

RESTON

New Parish Center: 20937 Ashburn Rd., #110, Ashburn, VA 5 September 2020

Maria Hawkins is postponing her SanktHubertus roast venison dinner for twenty diner-donors in view of the pandemic that besets us. When that new day appears on the horizon she will tell us.

Readings for the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Tone IV

The Weeks of Matthew and the Church year are drawing to a close.

### READING FROM THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH.

*This reading pays into the reading from the holy Gospel.*

Let me sing to my friend  
the song of his love for his vineyard.  
My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.  
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,  
and planted choice vines in it.  
In the middle he built a tower,  
he dug a press there too.  
He expected it to yield grapes,  
but sour grapes were all that it gave.  
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and men of Judah,  
I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.  
What could I have done for my vineyard  
that I have not done?  
I expected it to yield grapes.  
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?  
Very well, I will tell you  
what I am going to do with my vineyard:  
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,  
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.  
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;  
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.  
I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it.  
Yes, the vineyard of the LORD SABAOTH  
is the House of Israel and the men of Judah,  
that chosen plant.  
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,  
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

### PROKIMENON, Tone IV

After reading from the Prophets, the reader introduces

the **responsory psalm**: The prokimenon of the fourth tone: **O Lord, how manifold are your works! \* In wisdom have you made them all!** [v.24 RSV]

### PSALM 103 [Ns]

NOTE: A magnificent hymn praising God's creative wisdom and power. Filled with wonder, the psalmist acknowledges that it is the Lord who governs and sustains all his creatures and he proclaims the Lord's omnipotence and sanctity.

Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are great indeed—clothed in majesty and splendor, <sup>2</sup>robed in light as with a cloak.

You spread out the heavens like a tent-cloth, <sup>3</sup>you built your towering palace far above their waters; making the clouds your chariot, you travel on the wings of the wind;...

<sup>5</sup>You fixed the earth on its foundations, never to be disturbed. <sup>6</sup>With the deep you covered it, as with a garment;... <sup>13</sup>From your towering palace you water the hills; the earth drinks its fill of your gift.

<sup>14</sup>You make grass grow for cattle and plants for man's use, that he may bring forth bread from the earth, <sup>15</sup>and wine to gladden man's heart, oil to make his face glisten, and bread to strengthen his heart.

<sup>19</sup>You made the moon to mark the seasons; the sun knows when to set;... <sup>24</sup>**O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all!** The earth overflows with your riches!...

<sup>31</sup>May the glory of the Lord last forever! May the Lord take pleasure in all his works!... <sup>33</sup>I will sing to the Lord all my life! I will sing for joy in my God as long as I live!...

**Reader: O Lord, how manifold are your works!**  
**People: In wisdom have you made them all!**

### READING FROM PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS.

BRETHREN: <sup>16.13</sup> Be on your guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. <sup>14</sup> Your every act

should be done with love. <sup>15</sup>I urge you, brothers—you know that the household of Stephanas is the firstfruits of Achaia [*a region of ancient Greece on the north coast of the Peloponnesos—Ed.*] and that they have devoted themselves to the service of the holy ones—<sup>16</sup>be subordinate to such people and to everyone who works and toils with them. <sup>17</sup>I rejoice in the arrival of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaikos, because they made up for your absence, <sup>18</sup>for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. So give recognition to such people.

<sup>19</sup>The churches of Asia [=Western Turkey—Ed.] send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca together with the church at their house send you many greetings in the Lord.

<sup>20</sup>All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

<sup>21</sup>I, P·A·U·L, write you this greeting in my own hand. <sup>22</sup>If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed. *Marána thá* [*Aramaic = Our Lord, come!—Ed.*]. <sup>23</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. <sup>24</sup>My love to all of you in Christ Jesus..

#### ALLELUIA, Tone IV

##### PSALM 44 [NS]

NOTE: Keeping in mind Hebrews 1.8+ (wherein the Father addresses words of this psalm to the Son), this song of praise for a royal bridegroom and his foreign bride is understood by the Church in a typical sense, i.e., as speaking to Christ, our King, and to his bride, the Church.

My heart overflows with a noble theme; let me recite my verses for you, O king! My tongue is as nimble as the pen of a skillful writer.

<sup>2</sup>You are the most handsome of men, and graciousness flows from your lips; the blessings God has given you can never fail....

<sup>4</sup>Ride on triumphantly in the cause of truth and meekness and right. <sup>5</sup>Let the deeds of your right hand win you renown, for your arrows are sharp, and nations shall fall at your feet in terror.

<sup>6</sup>The eternal and everlasting God has enthroned you; your scepter is one that rules true; virtue you love as much as you hate wickedness.

<sup>7</sup>Rightly has God, your God, chosen to anoint you with the oil of gladness, setting you above all your companions....

Royal princesses take their place among your honored women; at your right stands the queen, dressed

in a robe of many colors, embroidered in gold....

<sup>16</sup>As for you, O king.... <sup>17</sup>...may this song make your name remembered from one generation to the next, that nations may praise you for ever and ever.

#### READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW:

THE LORD TOLD THIS PARABLE PARABLE: <sup>21.33</sup>There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. <sup>34</sup>When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized the servants [*symbolizing the prophets—Ed.*] and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, They will respect my son. <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance [*a quirk of the Law allowed for this—ed.*]. <sup>39</sup>They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard [*the Lord Jesus was crucified outside the walls of Jerusalem—Ed.*], and killed him. <sup>40</sup>What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes? <sup>41</sup>They answered him, He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants [*the Church taking in Gentiles—Ed.*] who will give him the produce [*the fruit of good works of faith—Ed.*] at the proper times. <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, Did you never read in the Scriptures: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes?*

*From the Prokimenon for the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem:*

Psalm 117.<sup>20</sup> This is the Lord's own gate, where the just enter in.... <sup>22</sup>**The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone** [=the Lord Jesus]; <sup>23</sup>by the Lord has this been done; a marvel in our eyes.

### TROPARION, Tone IV

*Greek Chant*

DO From the angel at the tomb, \* the  
holy women learned the joyous  
news. \* Throwing off the curse  
imposed on Adam, \* they ran in  
haste to tell Christ's friends. \* Their  
hearts could not contain their joy as  
they cried aloud: \* Death is over-  
thrown! \* Christ has ri--sen, \* bles-  
sing all the world with his Great  
Mercy.

### KONDAKION, Tone IV

*Greek Chant*

DO Our Saviour and Redeemer is God  
himself, \* the very one who freed  
those born on earth from eternal  
bonds. \* It was he who shattered the  
gates of hell, \* and then rose as  
Master on the third day.

### THE ÉKTENY or FERVENT PRAYER

(Ancient Penitential Litany and Prayer)

Let us all say with our whole soul,  
and with our whole mind let us say:  
Lord, have mercy.

O Lord almighty! O God of our fathers!  
We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God,  
according to your great mercy!

We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Again we pray:

For devout and Orthodox Christians.

For our Archbishop Tikhon.

For Emilia's daughter Elizabeth, for Carlos's son,  
John-Carlos, and for all who have asked for our prayers:  
we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation,  
pardon, and remission of their sins.

For Orthodox Christians who are made to suffer on account  
of Christ, and we pray for those who persecute them.

For Orthodox Christians and indeed all men who are  
victims of war and civil strife [and terror], of hunger and  
want, of intolerance and injustice.

For physicians, nurses, care-givers, and all serving those  
infected with the virus; and for the thousands who have  
succumbed to the disease—and for all who will die today.

### PRAYER OF THE ÉKTENY

Lord our God, accept this fervent prayer from your  
servants, and have mercy on us according to the  
greatness of your mercy. Send down your compassionate  
help upon us and upon all your people awaiting the rich  
mercy that comes from you.

For you are God, merciful and loving to man, and we  
render glory to you—to the Father and to the Son and to the  
Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.