

The First Prokeimenon

Tone 1

Obikhod
N. Bakhmetev

DE-LIV-ER ME, O LORD FROM VIO LENT MEN,

FROM VIO - LENT MEN.

Verse: Who have schemed unrighteousness in their hearts all the day long!

Reading: Exodus 19:10-19

The Second Prokeimenon

Tone 7

Obikhod
N. Bakhmetev

DE-LIV - ER ME FROM MINE EN- E-MIES, O GOD SAVE ME FROM

THOSE WHO RISE A - GAINST ME.

Verse: Deliver me from those who work evil.

Reading: Job 38:1-23 and 42:1-5

Reading: Isaiah 50:4-11

THE LITTLE LITANY and the TRISAGION.

**Holy Friday - Vespers and Divine Liturgy of St Basil
(Thursday evening)**

The First Prokeimenon in the First Tone:

Deliver me, O Lord, from violent men!

Verse: Who have schemed unrighteousness in their hearts all the day long!

The Reading from the Book of Exodus (Exodus 19:10-19)

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down and solemnly charge the people and sanctify them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes. Let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the Lord will descend upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, 'Take heed to yourselves that you do not go up to the mountain or touch its base. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely die. Not a hand shall touch him, but he shall surely be stoned or shot with an arrow; whether man or beast, he shall not live.' When the thunders, the trumpets, and the cloud depart from the mountain, they shall ascend the mountain."

So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified them, and they washed their clothes. Then he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not come near your wives."

So it was that on the third day in the morning, there were thunderings and lightnings and a dark cloud on Mount Sinai; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, and all the people in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was completely enveloped in smoke, because God descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the people were exceedingly amazed. And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.

The Second Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone:

Deliver me from my enemies, O God, save me from those who rise up against me!

Verse: Deliver me from those who work evil.

The Reading from the Book of Job (Job 38:1-23; 42:1-5)

After Elihu had ceased from speaking, then the Lord spoke to Job out of the whirlwind and clouds, saying:

"Who is this who hides counsel from Me,
And holds words in his heart
And thinks to conceal them from Me?
Gird your waist like a man;
I will question you, and you shall answer Me.

"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?
Tell Me, if you have understanding.
Who determined its measurements? Surely you know.
Or who stretched the line upon it?
To what were its foundations fastened,
Or who laid its cornerstone,
When the stars were made
And all My angels praised Me in a loud voice?

"I shut up the sea with doors
When it burst forth and issued from the womb.
I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in mist.
I fixed My limit for it and set bars and doors.
I said, 'This far you may come, but no further,
And here your waves must stop.'

"Did I order the morning light in your time,
And did the morning star see its appointed place,
To lay hold of the ends of the earth
And to shake the ungodly out of it?
Or did you take clay of the ground and form a living creature,
And set it with the power of speech upon the earth?
Have you removed light from the ungodly
And crushed the arm of the arrogant?†

"Have you come upon the fountain of the sea
And walked in the tracks of the deep?
Do the gates of death open to you for fear,
And did the doorkeepers of Hades quake when they saw you?
Have you been instructed in the breadth of the earth under heaven?
Tell Me now, what is the extent of it?

"In what kind of land does the light dwell,
And what kind is the place of darkness?
If you would bring Me to their boundaries,
And also if you understand their paths,
Then I know you were born at that time,
And the number of your years is great.
"Have you come upon the storehouses of snow?

Have you seen the storehouses of hail?
Are they stored for you against the time of your enemies,
For the day of wars and battles?

Then Job answered the Lord and said:

"I know You can do all things,
And nothing is impossible for You.
For who is he who hides counsel from You?
Who keeps back his words
And thinks to hide them from You?
Who will tell me what I knew not,
Things too great and wonderful, which I did not know?
But hear me, O Lord, that I also may speak.
I will ask You, and please teach Me.
"I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear,
But now my eye sees You.

The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah (Isaiah 50:4-11)

Thus says the Lord, "The Lord gives Me the tongue of the learned, so as to know when to speak a word at a fitting time; and He causes My ear to listen each morning. The Lord's instruction opens My ears, and I am not disobedient, nor do I contradict Him.

"I gave My back to whips, and My cheeks to blows; and I turned not away My face from the shame of spitting. The Lord became My helper; therefore, I was not disgraced. But I made My face like a solid rock and knew I would not be ashamed. For He who pronounces Me righteous draws near. Who is he who judges Me? Let him oppose Me at the same time. Who is he who judges Me? Let him come near Me. Behold, the Lord will help Me. Who will harm Me? Behold, all of you will grow old like a garment, and old age will devour you, as a moth does a garment.

"Who among you fears the Lord? Let him listen to the voice of His Servant. You who walk in darkness and have no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely upon God. Behold, all of you kindle a fire and feed a flame. Walk in the light of your fire and the flame you kindled. This happened to you for My sake, and you shall lie down in sorrow."

Small Litany and Trisagion Hymn

The Third Prokeimenon

Tone 7

Obikhod
N. Bakhmetev

THE RUL - ERS OF THE PEOPLE HAVE AS - SEM - BLED A - GAINST

THE LORD AND HIS CHRIST.

Verse: Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?

Epistle: I Corinthians 11:23-32

The Third Prokeimenon

Tone 7

Znamenny Chant
B. Ledkovsky

THE RUL - ERS OF THE PEOPLE HAVE AS - SEM - BLED A - GAINST

THE LORD AND HIS CHRIST.

The Third Prokeimenon in the Seventh Tone

The rulers of the people have assembled against the Lord and His Christ!

Verse: Why have the nations grown insolent, and peoples contemplated vain things?

*The Reading from the First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Corinthians
(1 Corinthians 11:23-32)*

Brethren: I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many *are* weak and sick among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

Alleluia, Tone 6

Verse: Blessed is he who considers the poor and needy; the Lord will deliver him on the day of evil.

Verse: My enemies spoke evil against me: "When will he die and his name perish?"

Verse: He who ate My bread has lifted up his heel against Me.

Alleluia

Tone 7

Znamenny Chant
D. Soloviev

AL-LE-LU-IA, AL-LE-LU - IA - AL - LE - LU IA.

Verses:

Blessed is he who considers the poor and needy! The Lord will deliver him on the day of trouble!

My enemies say to me in malice: "When will he die and his name perish?"

He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me!

Alleluia

Tone 7

Znamenny Chant
B. Ledkovsky

AL-LE-LU-IA, AL-LE-LU - IA, AL-LE-LU - - - IA.