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*Prokeimenon of the Day, three readings*

*Priest: Wisdom!*

*Reader: The reading from the Third Book of Kingdoms. (3 [1] Kings 8:22-23, 27-30)*

*Priest: Let us attend!*

*Reader: Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread forth his hands towards heaven; and said, "Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you, in heaven above or on earth beneath, If, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you ; how much less this house which I have built . Yet have regard to my supplication, O Lord God of Israel, hearkening to the prayer which your servant prays before you today; that your eyes may be open towards this house day and night, towards the place of which you have said, ""My name shall be there,"" to hearken to the prayer which your servant prays towards this place day and night. And hearken to the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place; and hear your dwelling place in heaven; and you shall act and show pity. "*

*Priest: Wisdom!*

*Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Isaiah 61:10-62:5)*

*Priest: Let us attend!*

*Reader: Let my soul rejoice in my God; for he has clothed me with a garment of salvation and a tunic of gladness, as a bridegroom he has put a garland upon me, and as a bride he has adorned me with beauty. For as the earth brings forth its flower, and as a garden it seeds, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and joy to spring forth before all the nations. For Sion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until my righteousness goes forth like light, and my salvation as a burning torch. The nations shall see your righteousness, and kings your glory; and he will call you by a new name which the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed "Forsaken", and your land shall no more be termed "Desert"; but you shall be called "My Will", and your land "Inhabited"; for the Lord has been well pleased in you, and your land shall be inhabited. For as a young man marries a virgin, so shall your sons make their dwelling, and as bridegroom rejoices over bride, so shall the Lord rejoice over you.*

*Priest: Wisdom!*

*Reader: The reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (Isaiah 60:1-16)*

*Priest: Let us attend!*

*Reader: Shine, shine, Jerusalem; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, like thick darkness over nations; but the Lord will appear upon you, and his glory shall be seen upon you. And kings shall walk by your light, and nations by your brightness. Lift up your eyes round about, and see your children have been gathered; your sons have come from far, and your daughters shall be carried on the shoulders. Then you shall see and be afraid, and be amazed in heart; because the wealth of the sea shall be turned to you, and that of nations and peoples. Flocks of camels shall come to you, the camels of Madian and Gaipha shall cover you; all those from Sheba shall come, bringing gold and they shall bring incense and precious stone, and shall proclaim the good tidings of the Lord's salvation. All the sheep of Kedar shall be gathered to you, the rams of Nebaioth shall come to you; acceptable sacrifices shall be offered on my altar, and my house of prayer shall be glorified. Who are these that fly like clouds, and like doves with their nestlings? For the islands have waited for me, the ships of Tharsis first of all, to bring your children from far, their silver and gold with them, for the holy name of the Lord, and for the Holy One of Israel to be glorious. Foreigners shall build up your walls, and their kings shall stand before you; for in my wrath I smote you, but in mercy I have loved you. Your gates shall be open continually; day and night they shall not be shut; that men may bring to you the power of nations, with their kings led in procession. For the nation and kings that will not serve you shall perish; the nations shall be utterly laid waste. The glory of Lebanon shall come to you, with cypress, pine, and cedar, to glorify my holy place; and I will make the place of my feet glorious. The sons of those who oppressed you and troubled you shall come to you in fear; you shall be called "City of the Lord, Sion of the Holy One of Israel". Whereas you have been forsaken and hated, with no one to help, I will make you a joy for ever, a gladness from generation to generation. You shall suck the milk of nations, eat the wealth of kings; and you shall know that I, the Lord, am your Savior and the God of Israel your Redeemer.*

*Then, the Augmented Litany*

## Sunday May 14, 2017

### Third Hour

*Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 5*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the  
Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in  
the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

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

*Troparion for Ss. Constantine and Helen –  
Tone 8*

Your servant, Constantine, O Lord and only  
Lover of mankind,  
beheld the figure of the Cross in the  
heavens.  
Like Paul, not having received his call from  
men,  
but as an apostle among rulers set by Your  
hand over the royal city,//  
he preserved lasting peace through the  
prayers of the Theotokos.

*(continue with 3<sup>rd</sup> hour at “Now and ever  
...”)*

*Kontakion from the Pentecostarion – Tone 8*

I come to You, O Christ, blind from birth in  
my spiritual eyes,  
and call to You in repentance://  
“You are the most radiant Light of those in  
darkness.”

### Sixth Hour:

*Resurrectional Troparion – Tone 5*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the  
Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in  
the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

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

*Troparion for Ss. Constantine and Helen –  
Tone 8*

Your servant, Constantine, O Lord and only  
Lover of mankind,  
beheld the figure of the Cross in the  
heavens.  
Like Paul, not having received his call from  
men,  
but as an apostle among rulers set by Your  
hand over the royal city,//  
he preserved lasting peace through the  
prayers of the Theotokos.

*(continue with 6<sup>th</sup> hour at “Now and ever  
...”)*

*Kontakion for Ss. Constantine and Helen –  
Tone 3*

Today Constantine and his mother Helen  
reveal the precious Cross,  
the weapon of Orthodox Christians against  
their enemies,//  
for it is manifest for us as a great and fearful  
sign in struggle.

*Priest:* Let us attend! +Peace be unto all!

**Reader: And with your spirit!**

*Prokeimenon, Tone 8*

**Reader: The Prokeimenon, in the 8<sup>th</sup> Tone: Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!**

*Choir:* Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!

**Reader: In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.**

*Choir:* Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!!

**Reader: In the Same Tone, their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!**

*Choir:* Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!

*Deacon:* Wisdom!

**Reader: The Reading from the Acts of the Holy Apostles.**

*Deacon:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* In those days, as the Apostles were going to prayer, it happened that we encountered a certain girl who had a spirit of divination and who produced much profit to her masters by fortune telling. As she followed Paul and Silas, she cried out, “These men are bondservants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us a way of salvation!” And she did this for many days. But Paul, becoming greatly annoyed, turned back and said to the spirit, “In the Name of Jesus Christ, I order you to come out of her!” And the spirit came out that very moment. When her masters saw that the hope of their gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas, and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. Having brought them to the magistrates, they said, “These Jewish men are causing unrest in our city! They teach customs which are not lawful for us Romans to accept or observe!” When the crowd also rose up against them, the magistrates had them stripped and flogged. After giving them a severe flogging, the magistrates had them thrown into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a command, he threw them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. But when it was about midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly, there was a great earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once, all the doors were opened, and everyone’s bonds were loosened. The jailer, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, began to draw his sword and he was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!” Having asked for lights, the jailer rushed in and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. He brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They answered, “Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you and your household!” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all those who were in his household. Late as it was, the jailer washed their wounds and was immediately baptized, he and his

entire household. He took them into his house and set food before them. He was filled with joy for believing in God, along with his entire household.

In those days, Agrippa said to Paul, “You may speak for yourself.” Then Paul held up his hand and made his defense. “I consider myself blessed, King Agrippa, that today, I am able to make my defense before you in response to all the accusations of the Jews, especially because you are an expert in all the customs and debates which take place among the Jews. Therefore, I beg you to hear me patiently. Indeed, all the Jews know about my way of life from my youth, which was from the beginning among my own nation at Jerusalem. Since they have known me from the beginning, they could testify that I lived as a Pharisee according to the strictest sect of our religion. Then, as I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission from the chief priests, at noon, O king, I saw on the way a light from the sky. It was brighter than the sun and shone around me and those who were traveling with me. We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice speaking to me and saying in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads!’ I asked, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ He replied, ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting! Now arise and stand on your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose: to appoint you as a servant and a witness both of what you have seen and of what I will reveal to you. I will rescue you from the [Jewish] people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, and receive remission of sins as well as an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in me.’ Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but I proclaimed this to the people of Damascus first, and Jerusalem, and throughout all the country of Judea. Then I also proclaimed it to the Gentiles—that they should repent, turn to God, and do works worthy of their repentance.

*Priest:* Peace be to you.

*Alleluia:* Tone 8

**Reader: And to Your spirit. In the 8<sup>th</sup> Tone: Alleluia! Look upon me and have mercy on me!**

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: Guide my steps according to Your word!**

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: In the 1<sup>st</sup> Tone, I have raised up one chosen out of my peoples.**

*Choir:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Great Vespers –	Divine Liturgy –
<p>May He Who rose from the dead trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His Most-pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable Apostles; of</p> <p>Ss. Constantine and Helen</p> <p>whom we commemorate today; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.</p>	<p>May He Who rose from the dead trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most pure Mother; of the holy, glorious, and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople; of</p> <p>Ss. Constantine and Helen</p> <p>whom we commemorate today; of the holy and righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.</p>

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*Gospel: (34) John 9:1-38 and (35-ctr) John 10:1-9*

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**Announcements:**

***Guests – we are honored by your presence and your prayers with us! Thank you, and please join us in our fellowship hour, sign our guest book, and if interested in being a regular part of our community, see me.***

***Please sign up to straighten up after the Liturgy and Coffee Hour.***

# Reading the Old Testament