

Psalm 100

A Psalm of David.

1. Of mercy and judgment I will sing unto Thee, O Lord.
2. I will sing with the lyre, and comprehend the ways of innocence.
When wilt Thou approach me?
I walk within my house in the innocence of my heart.
3. I have not placed before my eyes things that are unlawful.
I detested those who engage in transgressions.
4. A perverse heart has not attracted me.
I shun the corrupt, nor do I acknowledge them.
5. I drive away from me him who secretly slanders his neighbor,
Nor do I consort with the haughty look or insatiable heart.
6. My eyes are upon the faithful of the land, they that are seated with me;
He that had traversed the path of the innocent officiates for me.
7. He that values pride dwells not in my house.
Speaking falsehoods is not conducted within my sight.
8. In the morning I will slaughter all the sinners of the land, that I
might eliminate from the city of the Lord all who practice lawlessness.

Glory. Both now. Alleluia.

This is the final Psalm of the thirteenth Kathisma. It is always read during the service of the First Hour, the first phrase of verse 8 making it a morning prayer. It describes what a just man must do, including the elimination of sinners.

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SAINT SOPHIA GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

Ἁγίας Σοφίας τοῦ Θεοῦ

Washington, D.C.

January 17, 2010

The Fifteenth Sunday of Luke

Zacchaeus Sunday

Commemorating St. Anthony the Great

The Tone for this day is the Grave

The Morning Gospel of the Orthros is No. 10

John 21:1-14

At that time, Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No."⁶He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea. The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off. When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them. And although there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Prokeimenon: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His Saints
What shall I render unto the Lord for all that He has given to me Psalm 115:15 + 12

The Epistle is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 13:17-21
Commemorating St. Anthony the Great

Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Gospel Lesson is from Luke 19:1-10
15th of Luke, Zacchaeus Sunday

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

Anthony the Great

Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

O Father Anthony, you imitated the zealous Elijah.
You followed the straight paths of the Baptist and became a desert dweller.
By prayer you supported the world.
Wherefore, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

Kontakion in the Second Tone

Forsaking the tumult of the world, O venerable one,
you completed your life in silence, emulating the Baptist.
Therefore, we honor you along with him, O Anthony,
Father of Fathers.

Anthony was born in the year 251 to a well-to-do Egyptian family of Coma, a market town in Lower Egypt near the Thebaid desert. Sozomenos in his history states that he was orphaned at the age of 20; he lived a very pious life. He eventually gave his patrimony to his village and sold the rest of his possessions to distribute to the poor. He lived in a hut near his village in an ascetic manner. His food was bread and salt, his drink was pure water, and his mealtime was always at sunset. Often he remained two or more days without eating. He would sit every night in order to welcome the day with prayer. To sleep, he laid down on a small mat on the bare ground.

He acquired many disciples, and was renown in Egypt and Libya, as well as in Palestine, Syria, and Arabia. His fame spread in the deserts of Egypt, eventually reaching Emperor Constantine who befriended him by messages.

Trying to avoid the temptations of fame, he kept moving further into the desert. Several times he returned to Alexandria in order to fight heresies. Anthony lived one hundred and five years and died on January 17, 356. He is one of the few saints graced by the Church with the epithet "the Great."