Old Testament Readings

Reader: The Reading from the Book of Numbers.

The Lord said to Moses: “Gather Me seventy men from the elders of Israel, whom thou thyself knowest that they are the elders of the people, and their scribes; and thou shalt bring them to the tabernacle of witness, and they shall stand there with thee. And I will go down, and speak there with thee; and I will take of the Spirit that is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear together with thee the assaults of the people, and thou shalt not bear them alone.” And Moses went out, and spake the words of the Lord to the people; and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people, and he set them round about the tabernacle. And the Lord came down in a cloud, and spake to him, and took of the Spirit that was up-on him, and put it upon the seventy men that were elders; and when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied and ceased. And there were two men left in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad; and the Spirit rested upon them, and these were of the number of those who were enrolled, but they did not come to the taber-nacle; and they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, and spake, saying: “Eldad and Medad prophesy in the camp.” And Joshua the son of Nun, who attended on Moses, the chosen one, said: “Lord Moses, forbid them.” And Moses said to him: “Art thou jealous on my account? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets; whenever the Lord shall put His Spirit upon them.”

Reader: The Reading from the Prophecy of Joel.

Thus saith the Lord: “Rejoice and be glad, ye children of Zion, in the Lord your God; for He hath given you food fully, and will rain upon you the early and the latter rain, as before. And the floors shall be filled with wheat, and the presses shall over-flow with wine and oil. And I will recompense you for the years which the locust, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, and the cankerworm have eaten, even My great army, which I sent against you. And ye shall eat abundantly, and be satisfied, and shall praise the name of the Lord your God for the things which He hath wrought wonderfully with you: and My people shall not be shamed forever. And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and there is none else beside Me; and My people shall no more be ashamed for-ever. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. And on My servants and handmaids in those days will I pour out of My Spirit. And I will show wonders in heaven, and upon the earth: blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and glorious day of the Lord is come. And it shall come to pass that whoso-ever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Reader: The Reading from Ezekiel.

Thus saith the Lord: “I will take you out from the nations, and will gather you out of all the lands, and will bring you into your own land: and I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be purged from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, and I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and will put a new spirit in you: and I will take away the heart of stone out of your flesh, and will give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit in you, and will cause you to walk in Mine ordinances, and to keep My judgments, and do them. And ye shall dwell upon the land which I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be to Me a people, and I will be to you a God.

Stichera of the Litia

Reader: **In the Second Tone, In the prophets Thou didst announce to us.**

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Stichera of the Litia

(in the same tone)

In Thy courts will I hymn Thee, /

the Saviour of the world, /

and bending my knees I shall worship Thine invincible might: /

evening, morning and noonday, //

and at all times will I bless Thee, O Lord.

In Thy courts, O Lord, we the faithful, /

bending the knee of soul and body, /

hymn Thee, the unoriginate Father, /

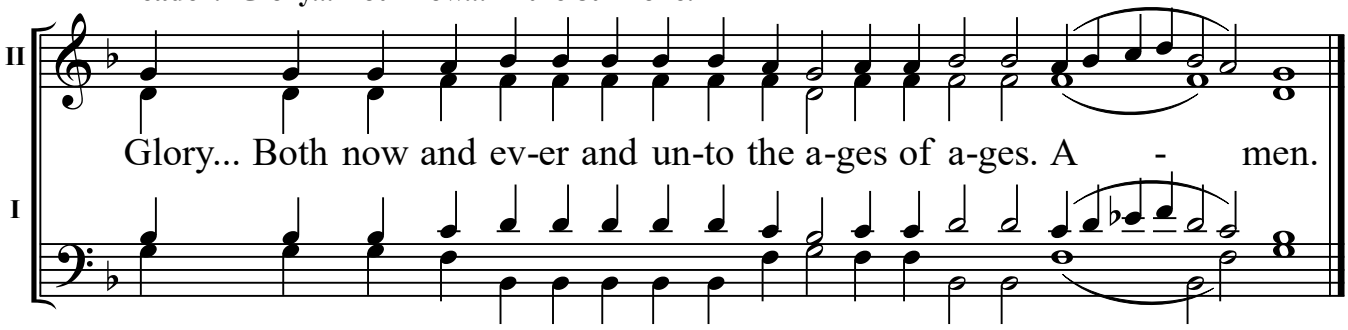
and the co-unoriginate Son, /

and the co-ever-existing and Most-holy Spirit, //

Who illumineth and sanctifieth our souls.

Stichera of the Litia

Reader: Glory... Both now... in the 8th Tone.



When Thou didst send Thy Spirit, O Lord, /

as the apostles were sitting, /

the Hebrew children, beholding this, were filled with awe, /

for they heard things spoken in other strange tongues, /

as the Spirit imparted to them; /

for the ignorant were made wise /

and netting the nations for the Faith, /

and with eloquence gave utterance to things divine. /

Wherefore, we cry out to Thee: /

O Lord Who didst appear on earth /

and save us from delusion, //

glory be to Thee!