

CHRISTMAS 2022

LESSONS AND CAROLS



1.

The reading is from the book of Genesis.

In the beginning God made heaven and earth. The earth was invisible and unfinished; and darkness was over the deep. The Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the water. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. God saw the light; it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day; the darkness He called Night; and there was evening and morning, one day. Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the water, and let it divide the water from the water"; and it was so. Thus God made the firmament, and God divided the water under the firmament from the water above the firmament. So God called the firmament Heaven, and God saw that it was good; and there was evening and morning, the second day. Then God said, "Let the water under heaven be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. The water under heaven was gathered into its places, and the dry land appeared. So God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas; and God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the herb of grass, bearing seed according to its kind and likeness. Let the fruit tree bear fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind on earth." It was so. Thus the earth brought forth the herb of grass, bearing seed according to its kind and likeness. The fruit tree bore fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind on earth. God saw that it was good. So evening and morning were the third day.

2.

The reading is from the book of Numbers.

The Spirit of God came upon Balaam. Then he took up his parable and said: How beautiful are your dwellings, O Jacob, Your tents, O Israel. Like wooded valleys offering shade, and like gardens by the rivers, like tents the Lord pitched, like cedars beside the waters. A Man shall come forth from his seed, and He shall rule many nations; and His kingdom shall be more exalted than Gog, and His kingdom shall increase. God led Him out of Egypt, and He has the glorious appearance of a unicorn. He shall consume the nations of his enemies and deprive them of their strength. He shall shoot the enemy with His missiles. He lies down and rests like a lion, and like a lion's cub, who shall rouse Him? Those who bless You are blessed, and those who curse You are cursed." A Star shall rise out of Jacob; and a Man shall rise out of Israel. He shall break in pieces the rulers of Moab and plunder all the sons of Seth. Edom shall be His inheritance, and also His enemy shall be His inheritance; but Israel acts with strength..

3.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Micah.

"In that day," says the Lord, "I shall gather her who has been broken, and I will welcome her who has been exiled, even those whom I have rejected. And I shall make her who has been broken into a remnant, and her that was rejected into a strong nation. So the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion henceforth and forever. And you, O Bethlehem, House of Ephrathah, though you are fewest in number among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to me the One to be ruler of Israel. His goings forth were from the beginning, even from everlasting." Therefore He shall give them up until the appointed time for her to give birth, and then the remnant of their brothers will return to the sons of Israel. And He shall stand and see, and shepherd His flock in the strength of the Lord, and they will dwell in the glory of the name of the Lord their God, for now they will be magnified unto the ends of the earth.

1.

Γενέσεως τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἐποίησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν. Ἡ δὲ γῆ ἦν ἀόρατος καὶ ἀκατασκεύαστος, καὶ σκότος ἐπάνω τῆς ἀβύσσου, καὶ πνεῦμα θεοῦ ἐπεφέρετο ἐπάνω τοῦ ὕδατος, καὶ εἶπεν ὁ θεός· Γενηθήτω φῶς, καὶ ἐγένετο φῶς, καὶ εἶδεν ὁ θεὸς τὸ φῶς ὅτι καλόν. καὶ διεχώρισεν ὁ θεὸς ἀνὰ μέσον τοῦ φωτὸς καὶ ἀνὰ μέσον τοῦ σκότους, καὶ ἐκάλεσεν ὁ θεὸς τὸ φῶς ἡμέραν καὶ τὸ σκότος ἐκάλεσεν νύκτα. καὶ ἐγένετο ἑσπέρα καὶ ἐγένετο πρωί, ἡμέρα μία. Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ θεός· Γενηθήτω στερέωμα ἐν μέσῳ τοῦ ὕδατος καὶ ἔστω διαχωρίζον ἀνὰ μέσον ὕδατος καὶ ὕδατος, καὶ ἐγένετο οὕτως, καὶ ἐποίησεν ὁ θεὸς τὸ στερέωμα, καὶ διεχώρισεν ὁ θεὸς ἀνὰ μέσον τοῦ ὕδατος, ὃ ἦν ὑποκάτω τοῦ στερεώματος, καὶ ἀνὰ μέσον τοῦ ὕδατος τοῦ ἐπάνω τοῦ στερεώματος, καὶ ἐκάλεσεν ὁ θεὸς τὸ στερέωμα οὐρανόν. καὶ εἶδεν ὁ θεὸς ὅτι καλόν. καὶ ἐγένετο ἑσπέρα καὶ ἐγένετο πρωί, ἡμέρα δευτέρα. Καὶ εἶπεν ὁ θεός· Συναχθήτω τὸ ὕδωρ τὸ ὑποκάτω τοῦ οὐρανοῦ εἰς συναγωγὴν μίαν, καὶ ὀφθήτω ἡ ξηρὰ. καὶ ἐγένετο οὕτως, καὶ συνήχθη τὸ ὕδωρ τὸ ὑποκάτω τοῦ οὐρανοῦ εἰς τὰς συναγωγὰς αὐτῶν, καὶ ὤφθη ἡ ξηρὰ. καὶ ἐκάλεσεν ὁ θεὸς τὴν ξηρὰν γῆν καὶ τὰ συστήματα τῶν ὑδάτων ἐκάλεσεν θαλάσσας, καὶ εἶδεν ὁ θεὸς ὅτι καλόν. καὶ εἶπεν ὁ θεός· Βλαστησάτω ἡ γῆ βοτάνην χόρτου, σπείρον σπέρμα κατὰ γένος καὶ καθ' ὁμοίότητα, καὶ ζύλον κάρπιμον ποιοῦν καρπόν, οὗ τὸ σπέρμα αὐτοῦ ἐν αὐτῷ κατὰ γένος ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ ἐγένετο οὕτως, καὶ ἐξῆνεγκεν ἡ γῆ βοτάνην χόρτου, σπείρον σπέρμα κατὰ γένος καὶ καθ' ὁμοίότητα, καὶ ζύλον κάρπιμον ποιοῦν καρπόν, οὗ τὸ σπέρμα αὐτοῦ ἐν αὐτῷ κατὰ γένος ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, καὶ εἶδεν ὁ θεὸς ὅτι καλόν. καὶ ἐγένετο ἑσπέρα καὶ ἐγένετο πρωί, ἡμέρα τρίτη.

2.

Ἀριθμῶν τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Ἐγένετο πνεῦμα Θεοῦ ἐπὶ Βαλαάμ· καὶ ἀναλαβὼν τὴν παραβολὴν αὐτοῦ εἶπεν· ὡς καλοὶ σου οἱ οἴκοι Ἰακώβ, αἱ σκηναὶ σου Ἰσραὴλ ὡσεὶ νάπαι σκιάζουσαι, καὶ ὡσεὶ παράδεισοι ἐπὶ ποταμῶν καὶ ὡς σκηναὶ ἃς ἐπηξεν Κύριος ὡσεὶ κέδροι παρ' ὕδατα. Ἐξελεύσεται ἄνθρωπος ἐκ τοῦ σπέρματος αὐτοῦ καὶ κυριεύσει ἐθνῶν πολλῶν, καὶ ὑψωθήσεται ἡ βασιλεία αὐτοῦ καὶ αὐξηθήσεται. Ὁ Θεὸς ὠδήγησεν αὐτὸν ἐξ Αἰγύπτου ὡς δόξα μονοκέρωτος αὐτῷ· ἔδεται ἔθνη ἐχθρῶν αὐτοῦ καὶ τὰ πάχη αὐτῶν ἐκμυελιεῖ καὶ ταῖς βολίσιν αὐτοῦ κατατοξεύσει ἐχθροῦς. Κατακλιθεῖς ἀνεπαύσατο ὡς λέων καὶ ὡς σκύμνος· τίς ἀναστήσει αὐτόν; οἱ εὐλογοῦντές σε εὐλογημένοι· καὶ οἱ καταρώμενοί σε κεκατήρηνται. Ἀνατελεῖ ἄστρον ἐξ Ἰακώβ καὶ ἀναστήσεται ἄνθρωπος ἐξ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ θραύσει τοὺς ἀρχηγούς Μωάβ, καὶ προνομεύσει πάντας υἱοὺς Σὴθ. Καὶ ἔσται Ἐδὼμ κληρονομία, καὶ ἔσται κληρονομία Ἡσαὺ ὁ ἐχθρὸς αὐτοῦ καὶ Ἰσραὴλ ἐποίησεν Ἰσχὺν.

3.

Προφητείας Μιχαίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, λέγει Κύριος, συνάξω τὴν συντετριμμένην καὶ τὴν ἀπωσμένην εἰσδέξομαι καὶ οὖς ἀπωσάμην. Καὶ θήσομαι τὴν συντετριμμένην εἰς ὑπόλειμμα, καὶ τὴν ἀπωσμένην εἰς ἔθνος ἰσχυρόν, καὶ βασιλεύσει Κύριος ἐπ' αὐτοὺς ἐν ὄρει Σιών ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν καὶ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Καὶ σὺ Βηθλεέμ, οἶκος τοῦ Ἐφραθα, μὴ ὀλιγοστός εἶ τοῦ εἶναι ἐν χιλιάσιν Ἰούδα· ἐκ σοῦ γάρ μοι ἐξελεύσεται τοῦ εἶναι εἰς ἄρχοντα ἐν τῷ Ἰσραὴλ, καὶ αἱ ἐξοδοὶ αὐτοῦ ἀπ' ἀρχῆς ἐξ ἡμερῶν αἰῶνος. Διὰ τοῦτο δώσει αὐτοὺς ἕως καιροῦ τικτούσης· τέξεται, καὶ οἱ ἐπίλοιποι τῶν ἀδελφῶν αὐτῶν ἐπιστρέψουσιν ἐπὶ τοὺς υἱοὺς Ἰσραὴλ. Καὶ στήσεται καὶ ὄψεται καὶ ποιμανεῖ τὸ ποίμνιον αὐτοῦ ἐν ἰσχύϊ Κύριος καὶ ἐν τῇ δόξῃ τοῦ ὀνόματος Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ αὐτῶν ὑπάρξουσιν· διότι νῦν μεγαλυνθήσονται, ἕως ἄκρων τῆς γῆς.

4.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord: There shall come forth a rod from the root of Jesse, and a flower shall grow out of his root. The Spirit of God shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and godliness. The Spirit of the fear of God shall fill Him. He shall not judge by reputation nor convict by common talk. But He will judge the cause of the humble, and reprove the humble of the earth. He shall strike the earth with the word of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the ungodly. He shall gird His loins with righteousness and cover his sides with truth. "The wolf shall feed with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf, the bull, and the lion shall feed together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze together, and their young ones shall lie down together. The lion and the ox shall eat straw together. The nursing child shall play by the hole of asps, and the weaned child shall put his hand in the den of asps. They shall not hurt nor be able to destroy anyone on My holy mountain, for the whole world shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as much water covers the seas. It shall come to pass in that day that there shall be a Root of Jesse who shall arise to rule nations. The Gentiles shall hope in Him, and His resting place shall be honorable."

5.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Jeremiah.

This is our God; no other shall be compared to Him. He found the whole way of knowledge and gave it to Jacob His servant and to Israel His beloved. Afterwards, He was seen upon the earth and lived among men. She is the book of the commandments of God and the law that endures forever. All those who keep her will live, but those forsaking her will die. Return, O Jacob, and take hold of her. Walk toward the radiance of the presence of her light. Do not give your glory to another or the things that are of advantage to you to a foreign nation. O Israel, we are blessed, for what is pleasing to our God is known to us.

6.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Daniel.

Daniel spoke to Nebuchadnezzar: "As for you, O king, you saw and beheld one great image. That image was very large and its appearance excellent. It stood before you, and its vision was fearful. The image had a head made of fine gold, and its hands, chest, and arms were made of silver, and its stomach and thighs, of copper. Its legs were iron, and its feet were partly iron and partly clay. You saw while a stone was cut out of a mountain without hands, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and ground them to powder. Then at once the clay, the iron, the copper, the silver, and the gold were like dust from the summer threshing floor, and a great force of wind blew them away; and their place was not to be found. Then the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled all the earth. This is the dream, and we will tell its interpretation before the king. The God of heaven will raise up a kingdom, and it shall never be destroyed. This kingdom shall not be left to another people, but it will break in pieces and crush all these kingdoms; and it will stand forever. Whereas you saw the stone cut out of the mountain without hands, it ground to powder the clay, the iron, the copper, the silver, and the gold. Thus the great God has made known to the king what must come to pass after this. The dream is true, and its interpretation is trustworthy."

4.

Προφητείας Ἡσαΐου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Τάδε λέγει Κύριος· ἐξελεύσεται ῥάβδος ἐκ τῆς ρίζης Ἰεσσαὶ καὶ ἄνθος ἐκ τῆς ρίζης ἀναβήσεται καὶ ἀναπαύσεται ἐπ' αὐτῷ πνεῦμα τοῦ Θεοῦ· πνεῦμα σοφίας καὶ συνέσεως πνεῦμα βουλῆς καὶ ἰσχύος πνεῦμα γνώσεως καὶ εὐσεβείας, Πνεῦμα φόβου Θεοῦ ἐμπλήσει αὐτόν. Οὐ κατὰ τὴν δόξαν κρινεῖ, οὐδὲ κατὰ τὴν λαλιὰν ἐλέγξει ἀλλὰ κρινεῖ ἐν δικαιοσύνῃ ταπεινῶν κρίσιν, καὶ ἐλέγξει ἐν εὐθύτητι τοὺς ταπεινοὺς τῆς γῆς· καὶ πατάξει γῆν τῷ λόγῳ τοῦ στόματος αὐτοῦ καὶ ἐν πνεύματι διὰ χειλέων ἀνελεῖ ἀσεβεῖς. Καὶ ἔσται δικαιοσύνη ἐξωσμένος τὴν ὄσφιν αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀληθεῖα εἰλημένος τὰς πλευρὰς αὐτοῦ. Τότε συμβοσκηθήσεται λύκος μετὰ ἀρνῶν, καὶ πάρδαλις συναπαύσεται ἐρίφῳ· καὶ μοσχάριον καὶ λέων καὶ ταῦρος ἅμα βοσκηθήσονται καὶ ἅμα τὰ παιδία αὐτῶν ἔσονται· καὶ λέων ὡς βοῦς φάγεται ἄχυρα. Καὶ παιδίον νήπιον ἐπὶ τρώγλην ἀσπίδων καὶ ἀπογεγαλακτισμένον ἐπὶ κοίτης ἐκγόνων ἀσπίδων τὴν χειρὰ ἐπιβαλεῖ καὶ οὐ μὴ κακοποιήσουσιν, οὐδ' οὐ μὴ δυνήσονται ἀπολέσαι οὐδένα ἐπὶ τὸ ὄρος τὸ ἅγιόν μου· ὅτι ἐνεπλήσθη ἡ σύμπασα γῆ τοῦ γῶναι τὸν Κύριον ὡς ὕδωρ πολὺ κατακαλύψαι θαλάσσας. Καὶ ἔσται ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ ἡ ρίζα τοῦ Ἰεσσαὶ καὶ ὁ ἀνιστάμενος ἄρχειν ἐθνῶν· ἐπ' αὐτῷ ἔθνη ἐλπιούσιν, καὶ ἔσται ἡ ἀνάπαυσις αὐτοῦ τιμῆ.

5.

Προφητείας Ἰερემίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Οὗτος ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν οὐ λογισθήσεται ἕτερος πρὸς αὐτόν. Ἐξεῦρεν πᾶσαν ὁδὸν ἐπιστήμης καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτὴν Ἰακώβ τῷ παιδί αὐτοῦ καὶ Ἰσραὴλ τῷ ἠγαπημένῳ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ. Μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ὤφθη καὶ τοῖς ἀνθρώποις συνανεστράφη. Αὕτη ἡ βίβλος τῶν προσταγμάτων τοῦ Θεοῦ καὶ ὁ νόμος ὁ ὑπάρχων εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα· πάντες οἱ κρατοῦντες αὐτὴν, εἰς ζοὴν· οἱ δὲ καταλείποντες αὐτὴν ἀποθανοῦνται. Ἐπιστρέφου Ἰακώβ καὶ ἐπιλαβοῦ αὐτῆς· διόδευσον πρὸς τὴν λάμπιν κατέναντι τοῦ φωτὸς αὐτῆς. Μὴ δῶς ἐτέρῳ τὴν δόξαν σου καὶ τὰ συμφέροντά σοι ἔθνει ἄλλοτριῷ. Μακάριοί ἐσμεν Ἰσραὴλ· ὅτι τὰ ἄρεστά τῷ Θεῷ ἡμῖν γνωστά ἐστίν.

6.

Προφητείας Δανιὴλ τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Εἶπε Δανιήλ, τῷ Ναβουχοδονόσορ· Σὺ Βασιλεῦ ἐθεώρεις, καὶ ἰδοὺ εἰκὼν μία· μεγάλη ἢ εἰκὼν ἐκείνη, καὶ ἡ πρόσοψις αὐτῆς ὑπερφερῆς, ἔστῶσα πρὸ προσώπου σου ἢ ὄρασις αὐτῆς, φοβερὰ. Εἰκὼν, ἧς ἡ κεφαλὴ χρυσοῦ καθαροῦ· αἱ χεῖρες καὶ τὸ στήθος καὶ οἱ βραχίονες αὐτῆς, ἄργυροῦ· ἡ κοιλία καὶ οἱ μηροί, χαλκοῦ· αἱ κνήμαι, σιδηραῖ, οἱ πόδες μέρος μὲν τι σιδηροῦν, μέρος δὲ τι ὀστράκινον. Ἐθεώρεις, ἔως ὅτου ἀπετμήθη λίθος ἀπὸ ὄρους ἄνευ χειρός, καὶ ἐπάταξε τὴν εἰκόνα ἐπὶ τοὺς πόδας τοὺς σιδηροῦς καὶ ὀστρακίνοους, καὶ ἐλέπτυνεν αὐτοὺς εἰς τέλος. Τότε ἐλεπτύνθησαν εἰς ἅπαξ, τὸ ὀστρακον ὁ σίδηρος, ὁ χαλκός, ὁ ἄργυρος, ὁ χρυσός, καὶ ἐγένοντο ὡσεὶ κονιορτὸς ἀπὸ ἄλωνος θερινῆς· καὶ ἐξῆρεν αὐτὰ τὸ πλῆθος τοῦ πνεύματος, καὶ τόπος οὐχ εὐρέθη ἐν αὐτοῖς, καὶ ὁ λίθος, ὁ πατάξας τὴν εἰκόνα, ἐγένετο εἰς ὄρος μέγα καὶ ἐπλήρωσε πᾶσαν τὴν γῆν. Τοῦτό ἐστι τὸ ἐνύπνιον· καὶ τὴν σύγκρισιν αὐτοῦ, ἐροῦμεν ἐνώπιον τοῦ Βασιλέως. Αναστήσει ὁ Θεὸς τοῦ οὐρανοῦ βασιλείαν, ἣτις εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα οὐ διαφθαρήσεται, καὶ ἡ βασιλεία αὐτοῦ λαῷ ἐτέρῳ οὐχ ὑπολειφθήσεται· καὶ λεπυνεῖ καὶ ἐκλικμήσει πάσας τὰς βασιλείας· καὶ αὐτὴ ἀναστήσεται εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας, ὃν τρόπον εἶδες, ὅτι ἀπὸ ὄρους ἐτμήθη λίθος ἄνευ χειρῶν. Καὶ ἐλέπτυνε τὸ ὀστρακον, τὸν σίδηρον, τὸν χαλκόν, τὸν ἄργυρον, τὸν χρυσόν. Ὁ Θεὸς ὁ μέγας ἐγνώρισε τῷ βασιλεῖ, ἃ δεῖ γενέσθαι μετὰ ταῦτα· καὶ ἀληθινὸν τὸ ἐνύπνιον· καὶ πιστὴ ἡ σύγκρισις αὐτοῦ.

7.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. His name will be called the Angel of Great Counsel, for I shall bring peace upon the rulers, peace and health by Him. Great shall be His government, and of His peace there is no end. His peace shall be upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order and establish it with righteousness and judgment, from that time forward and unto ages of ages. The zeal of the Lord of hosts shall perform this.

8.

The reading is from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

Moreover the Lord added this to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign for yourself from the Lord your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, nor will I tempt the Lord." Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, O house of David, is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary the Lord also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Immanuel. Butter and honey He shall eat before He knows to prefer evil or choose the good, for before the Child knows good or evil, He refuses the evil to choose the good." Moreover the Lord said to me, "Take for yourself a large new book, and write on it with a man's pen concerning making a swift plunder of spoils, for it is near at hand. Then make witnesses for Me of faithful men: Uriah and Zechariah, the son of Berechiah." Then I went to the prophetess, and she conceived and bore a son, and the Lord said to me, "Call his name Quickly Despoil, Swiftly Plunder; for before the child shall know how to call for his father and mother, one shall take the power of Damascus and the spoils of Samaria in the presence of the king of Assyria. O God with us. Know this, O Gentiles, and be defeated. Give ear, all you to the very ends of the earth. Be defeated although you are strong, for even if you should be strong again, you will be defeated again. Then too, whatever counsel you take, the Lord will scatter it abroad; and whatever word you shall speak, it will not continue among you, for the Lord God is with us."

9.

The Epistle.

The reading is from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews.

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs. For to what angel did God ever say, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the first-born into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "Who makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever, the righteous scepter is the scepter of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, thy God, has anointed thee with the oil of gladness beyond thy comrades." And, "Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end."

7.

Προφητείας Ἡσαίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Παιδίον ἐγεννήθη ἡμῖν υἱὸς καὶ ἐδόθη ἡμῖν, οὗ ἡ ἀρχὴ ἐγενήθη ἐπὶ τοῦ ὤμου αὐτοῦ· καὶ καλεῖται τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Μεγάλης βουλῆς Ἄγγελος, θαυμαστὸς σύμβουλος, Θεὸς ἰσχυρὸς, ἐξουσιαστὴς, ἄρχων εἰρήνης, πατὴρ τοῦ μέλλοντος αἰῶνος· ἐγὼ γὰρ ἄξω εἰρήνην ἐπὶ τοὺς ἄρχοντας εἰρήνην καὶ ὑγείαν αὐτῷ. Μεγάλῃ ἡ ἀρχὴ αὐτοῦ καὶ τῆς εἰρήνης αὐτοῦ οὐκ ἔστιν ὄριον· ἐπὶ τὸν θρόνον Δαυὶδ καὶ ἐπὶ τὴν Βασιλείαν αὐτοῦ κατορθῶσαι αὐτήν, καὶ ἀντιλαβέσθαι αὐτῆς ἐν κρίματι καὶ δικαιοσύνῃ, ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν καὶ εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα. Ὁ ζῆλος Κυρίου Σαβαὼθ ποιήσει ταῦτα.

8.

Προφητείας Ἡσαίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Προσέθετο Κύριος λαλῆσαι τῷ Ἀχαζ λέγων· Αἴτησαι σεαυτῷ σημεῖον παρὰ Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ σου εἰς βάθος ἢ εἰς ὕψος. Καὶ εἶπεν Ἀχαζ· Οὐ μὴ αἰτήσω οὐδ' οὐ μὴ πειράσω Κύριον· Καὶ εἶπεν (Ἡσαίας)· Ακούσατε δὴ οἶκος Δαυὶδ· μὴ μικρὸν ὑμῖν ἀγῶνα παρέχειν ἀνθρώποις; καὶ πῶς Κυρίῳ παρέχετε ἀγῶνα; Διὰ τοῦτο δώσει Κύριος αὐτὸς ἡμῖν σημεῖον. Ἴδου ἡ παρθένος ἐν γαστρὶ λήψεται καὶ τέξεται υἱόν, καὶ καλέσεις τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ Ἐμμανουήλ. Βούτυρον καὶ μέλι φάγεται πρὶν ἢ γνῶναι αὐτὸν ἢ προελεσθαι πονηρὰ, ἐκλέξεται τὸ ἀγαθόν. Διότι πρὶν ἢ γνῶναι τὸ παιδίον ἀγαθὸν ἢ κακὸν ἀπειθεῖ πονηρία τοῦ ἐκλέξασθαι τὸ ἀγαθόν. Καὶ εἶπεν Κύριος πρὸς με· Λάβε σεαυτῷ τόμον καινόν μέγαν, καὶ γράψον εἰς αὐτὸν γραφίδι ἀνθρώπου. Τοῦ ὀξέως προνομὴν ποιῆσαι σκύλων. Πάρεστι γάρ· Καὶ μάρτυράς μοι ποιήσον πιστοὺς ἀνθρώπους, τὸν Οὐρίαν τὸν ἱερέα, καὶ Ζαχαρίαν υἱὸν Βαραχίου· Καὶ προσήλθον πρὸς τὴν προφήτιν καὶ ἐν γαστρὶ ἔλαβε, καὶ ἔτεκεν υἱόν· καὶ εἶπέ μοι Κύριος· Κάλεσον τὸ ὄνομα αὐτοῦ. Ταχέως σκύλευσον, ὀξέως προνόμεισον. Διότι πρὶν ἢ γνῶναι τὸ παιδίον καλεῖν πατέρα ἢ μητέρα λήψεται δύναμιν Δαμασκοῦ καὶ τὰ σκῦλα Σαμαρείας ἐναντι Βασιλέως Ἀσσυρίων. Μεθ' ἡμῶν ὁ Θεός. Γινῶτε Ἔθνη καὶ ἠτῆσθε· ἔπακουσατε ἕως ἐσχάτου τῆς γῆς· ἰσχυρότερες ἠτῆσθε. Ἐὰν γὰρ πάλιν διασκέδασει Κύριος· καὶ λόγον ὃν ἔαν λαλήσητε οὐ μὴ ἐμμεῖν ἔν ὑμῖν ὅτι μεθ' ἡμῶν ὁ Θεός.

9.

Ὁ Ἀπόστολος.

Πρὸς Ἑβραίους Ἐπιστολῆς Παύλου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Ἀδελφοί, πολυμερῶς καὶ πολυτρόπως πάλαι ὁ Θεὸς λαλήσας τοῖς πατράσιν ἐν τοῖς προφήταις, ἐπ' ἐσχάτου τῶν ἡμερῶν τούτων ἐλάλησεν ἡμῖν ἐν Υἱῷ, ὃν ἔθηκε κληρονόμον πάντων, δι' οὗ καὶ τοὺς αἰῶνας ἐποίησεν· ὃς ὢν ἀπαύγασμα τῆς δόξης καὶ χαρακτὴρ τῆς ὑποστάσεως αὐτοῦ, φέρων τε τὰ πάντα τῷ ῥήματι τῆς δυνάμεως αὐτοῦ, δι' ἑαυτοῦ καθαρισμόν ποιησάμενος τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν ἡμῶν ἐκάθισεν ἐν δεξιᾷ τῆς μεγαλωσύνης ἐν ὑψηλοῖς, τοσοῦτῳ κρείττων γενόμενος τῶν Ἀγγέλων, ὧσφ διαφορότερον παρ' αὐτοὺς κεκληρονόμηκεν ὄνομα. Τίνι γὰρ εἶπέ ποτε τῶν Ἀγγέλων· Υἱός μου εἶ σύ, ἐγὼ σήμερον γεγέννηκά σε, καὶ πάλιν· ἐγὼ ἔσομαι αὐτῷ εἰς Πατέρα, καὶ αὐτὸς ἔσται μοι εἰς Υἱόν; Ὅταν δὲ πάλιν εἰσαγάγῃ τὸν πρωτότοκον εἰς τὴν οἰκουμένην, λέγει· καὶ προσκυνησάτωσαν αὐτῷ πάντες Ἄγγελοι Θεοῦ. Καὶ πρὸς μὲν τοὺς Ἀγγέλους λέγει· ὁ ποιῶν τοὺς Ἀγγέλους αὐτοῦ πνεύματα, καὶ τοὺς λειτουργοὺς αὐτοῦ πυρὸς φλόγα· πρὸς δὲ τὸν Υἱόν· ὁ θρόνος σου, ὁ Θεός, εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τοῦ αἰῶνος· ῥάβδος εὐθύτητος, ἡ ῥάβδος τῆς βασιλείας σου· ἠγάπησας δικαιοσύνην καὶ ἐμίσησας ἀνομίαν· διὰ τοῦτο ἔχρισέ σε ὁ Θεός, ὁ Θεός σου ἔλαιον ἀγαλλιᾶσσεως παρὰ τοὺς μετόχους σου· καί· σὺ κατ' ἀρχάς, Κύριε, τὴν γῆν ἔθεμελίωσας, καὶ ἔργα τῶν χειρῶν σου εἰσιν οἱ οὐρανοί· αὐτοὶ ἀπολοῦνται, σὺ δὲ διαμένεις· καὶ πάντες ὡς ἱμάτιον παλαιωθήσονται, καὶ ὡσεὶ περιβόλαιον ἐλίξεις αὐτούς, καὶ ἀλλαγῆσονται· σὺ δὲ ὁ αὐτὸς εἶ, καὶ τὰ ἔτη σου οὐκ ἐκλείουσι.

The Gospel

The reading is from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Apolitikion of the Feast.

Your nativity, O Christ our God, has caused the light of knowledge to rise upon the world. For therein the worshippers of the stars were by a star instructed to worship You, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know You as Orient from on high. Glory to You, O Lord.



Τὸ Εὐαγγέλιον

Ἐκ τοῦ κατὰ Λουκᾶν ἁγίου Εὐαγγελίου τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα.

Ἐν ταῖς ἡμέραις ἐκείναις, ἐξῆλθε δόγμα παρὰ Καίσαρος Αὐγούστου ἀπογράφεσθαι πᾶσαν τὴν οἰκουμένην. αὕτη ἡ ἀπογραφή πρώτη ἐγένετο ἡγεμονεύοντος τῆς Συρίας Κυρηνίου. καὶ ἐπορεύοντο πάντες ἀπογράφεσθαι, ἕκαστος εἰς τὴν ἰδίαν πόλιν. ἀνέβη δὲ καὶ Ἰωσήφ ἀπὸ τῆς Γαλιλαίας ἐκ πόλεως Ναζαρέτ εἰς τὴν Ἰουδαίαν εἰς πόλιν Δαυίδ, ἣτις καλεῖται Βηθλεέμ, διὰ τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν ἐξ οἴκου καὶ πατριάς Δαυίδ, ἀπογράψασθαι σὺν Μαριάμ τῇ μεμνηστευμένη αὐτῷ γυναικί, οὓση ἐγκύω. ἐγένετο δὲ ἐν τῷ εἶναι αὐτοὺς ἐκεῖ ἐπλήσθησαν αἱ ἡμέραι τοῦ τεκεῖν αὐτήν, καὶ ἔτεκε τὸν υἱὸν αὐτῆς τὸν πρωτότοκον, καὶ ἐσπαργάνωσεν αὐτὸν καὶ ἀνέκλινεν αὐτὸν ἐν τῇ φάτνῃ, διότι οὐκ ἦν αὐτοῖς τόπος ἐν τῷ καταλύματι. Καὶ ποιμένες ἦσαν ἐν τῇ χώρα τῇ αὐτῇ ἀγραυλοῦντες καὶ φυλάσσοντες φυλακὰς τῆς νυκτὸς ἐπὶ τὴν ποιμνὴν αὐτῶν. καὶ ἰδοὺ ἄγγελος Κυρίου ἐπέστη αὐτοῖς καὶ δόξα Κυρίου περιέλαμψεν αὐτούς, καὶ ἐφοβήθησαν φόβον μέγαν. καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ὁ ἄγγελος· μὴ φοβεῖσθε· ἰδοὺ γὰρ εὐαγγελίζομαι ὑμῖν χαρὰν μεγάλην, ἣτις ἔσται παντὶ τῷ λαῷ, ὅτι ἐτέχθη ὑμῖν σήμερον σωτήρ, ὃς ἔστι Χριστὸς Κύριος, ἐν πόλει Δαυίδ. καὶ τοῦτο ὑμῖν τὸ σημεῖον· εὕρησете βρέφος ἐσπαργανωμένον, κείμενον ἐν φάτνῃ. καὶ ἐξαίφνης ἐγένετο σὺν τῷ ἀγγέλῳ πλῆθος στρατιᾶς οὐρανοῦ αἰνούντων τὸν Θεὸν καὶ λεγόντων· δόξα ἐν ὑψίστοις Θεῷ καὶ ἐπὶ γῆς εἰρήνη, ἐν ἀνθρώποις εὐδοκία. καὶ ἐγένετο ὡς ἀπῆλθον ἀπ' αὐτῶν εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν οἱ ἄγγελοι, καὶ οἱ ἄνθρωποι οἱ ποιμένες εἶπον πρὸς ἀλλήλους· διέλθωμεν δὴ ἕως Βηθλεέμ καὶ ἴδωμεν τὸ ρῆμα τοῦτο τὸ γεγονός, ὃ ὁ Κύριος ἐγνώρισεν ἡμῖν. καὶ ἦλθον σπεύσαντες, καὶ ἀνεῦρον τὴν τε Μαριάμ καὶ τὸν Ἰωσήφ καὶ τὸ βρέφος κείμενον ἐν τῇ φάτνῃ. ἰδόντες δὲ διεγνώρισαν περὶ τοῦ ρήματος τοῦ λαληθέντος αὐτοῖς περὶ τοῦ παιδίου τούτου· καὶ πάντες οἱ ἀκούσαντες ἐθαύμασαν περὶ τῶν λαληθέντων ὑπὸ τῶν ποιμένων πρὸς αὐτούς. ἡ δὲ Μαριάμ πάντα συνετήρει τὰ ρήματα ταῦτα συμβάλλουσα ἐν τῇ καρδίᾳ αὐτῆς. καὶ ὑπέστρεψαν οἱ ποιμένες δοξάζοντες καὶ αἰνοῦντες τὸν Θεὸν ἐπὶ πᾶσιν οἷς ἤκουσαν καὶ εἶδον καθὼς ἐλαλήθη πρὸς αὐτούς.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς.

Ἡ Γέννησίς σου Χριστέ ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, ἀνέτειλε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ φῶς τὸ τῆς γνώσεως· ἐν αὐτῇ γὰρ οἱ τοῖς ἄστροις λατρεύοντες, ὑπὸ ἀστέρος ἐδιδάσκοντο, σὲ προσκυνεῖν, τὸν Ἥλιον τῆς δικαιοσύνης, καὶ σὲ γινώσκειν ἐξ ὕψους ἀνατολήν. Κύριε δόξα σοι.



Christmas Carols for
Christmas Eve

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing:
Glory to the Newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful all ye nations rise;
join the triumph of the skies.
With Angelic Host proclaim:
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Hark! The herald angels sing:
Glory to the Newborn King!

The First Noel

The first Noel the angels did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!

Silent Night

Silent Night! Holy Night!
All is calm; all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Άγια Νύχτα

Άγια Νύχτα, σε προσμένουν
Με χαρά οι χριστιανοί
Και με πίστη ανυμνούμε
Το Θεό δοξολογούνε
Μ' ένα στόμα, μια φωνή
Ναι με μια φωνή

Η ψυχή μας φτερουγίζει
Πέρα στ' άγια τα βουνά
Όπου ψάλλουν οι αγγέλοι
Απ' τα ουράνια θεία μέλη
Στον Σωτήρα «Ωσαννά»
Ψάλλουν «Ωσαννά»

Christmas Carols for
Christmas Eve

Aghia Nihta

Aghia Nihta, se prosmenoun,
me hara, I Hristiani.
Ke me pisti animnoume,
Ton Theon doxologhoume
M'ena stoma, mia foni.
Ne, me mia foni.

I psihi mas fteroughizi
pera st' aghia ta vouna
Ki' opou psaloun I angheli
ap'ta ourania thia meli
Sto Sotira Osana, Psaloun Osana!

We Three Kings

We Three Kings of Orient are
bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder Star.
Oh - Star of Wonder! Star of Night!
Star with Royal Beauty Bright!
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to that Perfect Light.

O Come All Ye Faithful

O Come all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him
born the King of Angels.
O come let us adore Him!
O come let us adore Him!
O come let us adore Him – Christ the Lord!

Καλήν Εσπέραν

Καλήν εσπέραν άρχοντες,
αν είναι ορισμός σας,
Χριστού τη Θεία γέννηση,
να πω στ' αρχοντικό σας.
Χριστός γεννάται σήμερα,
εν Βηθλεέμ τη πόλη,
οι ουρανοί αγάλλονται,
χαίρεται η φύσις όλη.

Εν τω σπηλαίῳ τίκτεται,
εν φάτνη των αλόγων,
ο βασιλεύς των ουρανῶν,
και ποιητής των ὄλων.
Πλήθος ἀγγέλων ψάλλουσι,
το Δόξα εν υψίστοις,
και τούτο ἄξιον ἐστί,
ἡ των ποιμένων πίστις.

Kalin Esperan

Kalin esperan arhontes
an ine orismos sas
Xristu ti thia genissi
Na po st' arhontiko sas
Xristos gennate simeron
en Vithleem ti poli
I ourani agalonte
Herete I fissis oli

En to spileo tiktete
en fatni ton alogon
o vassilefs ton ouranon
ke piitis ton olon
plithos agelon psalousi
to doksa en ipsistis
ke touton aksion esti
I ton pimenon pistis

Αρχιμηνιά

Αρχιμηνιά κι Αρχιχροινιά
ψηλή μου δεντρολιβανιά
κι αρχή καλός μας χρόνος
εκκλησιά με τ' ἅγιο θρόνος.

Αρχή που βγήκε ο Χριστός
ἅγιος και Πνευματικός,
στη γη να περπατήσει
και να μας καλοκαρδίσει.

Ἄγιος Βασίλης ἐρχεται,
και δεν μας καταδέχεται,
ἀπό την Καισαρεία,
συ' σαι ἀρχόντισσα κυρία.

Βαστά εικόνα και χαρτί
ζαχαροκάρνο, ζυμωτή
χαρτί και καλαμάρι
δες και με-δες και με το παλικάρι.

Το καλαμάρι ἐγραφε,
τη μοίρα του την ἔλεγε
και το χαρτί-και το χαρτί ομίλει
Ἄγιε μου-ἄγιε μου καλέ Βασίλη.

Arhiminia

Arhiminia ki arhihronia
psili mou dentrolivania,
ki arhi - ki arhi kalos mas hronos,
ekklisia - ekklisia me t' agio thronos.

Arhi pou vgike o Hristos
agios kai pneumatikos,
sti gi - sti gi na perpatisei
kai na mas - kai na mas kalokardisei.

Agios Vasilis erhetai
kai den mas katadehetai
apo - apo tin Kaisareia
eisai arho - eisai arhontissa, kiria.

Vasta eikona kai harti
me to Hristo to litroti,
harti - harti kai kalamari,
des kai me - des kai me to palikari.

To kalamari egrafe
Ti mira tou tin elege
Kai to harti – kai to harti omili
Agie mou – Agie mou kale Vasili

Joy to the World

Joy to the world the Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven and Nature sing
And Heaven and Nature sing
And Heaven and Heaven and Nature Sing.

**On Behalf of the Parish Council,
Ministries, and Organizations of
the Archangel Michael Church
We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Blessed New Year 2023!**



**Protopresbyter John K. Lardas
Protopresbyter Dennis Strouzas
Deacon Ioannis Capones**