

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be with you all!

Reader: *And with your spirit!*

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: *Prokeimenon in the 5th Tone:*

*Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.*

Choir: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: *Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly!*

Choir: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: *And in the 1st Tone. My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. .*

Choir: My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: *The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews.*

Deacon: Let us attend!

*BRETHREN, IN THE BEGINNING, Thou O Lord, didst found the earth, 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." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make Thy enemies a stool for Thy feet?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation? Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.+*

BRETHREN, for such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.+

Priest: Peace be unto you, reader.

Reader: And to your spirit. Alleluia in the 1st Tone!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust."

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Reader: In the 2nd Tone: The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## GOSPEL: MARK

**A**T THAT TIME, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-he said to the paralytic -"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!" +

**T**HE LORD SAID, "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd." +