

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be with you all!

**Reader: And with your spirit!**

Deacon: Wisdom!

**Reader: Prokeimenon in the 8th 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: And in the 4th Tone. God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.**

Choir: God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

Deacon: Wisdom!

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

Deacon: Let us attend!

**B**rethren, who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.+

Priest: Peace be unto you, reader.

**Reader: And to your spirit. Alleluia in the 4th Tone! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: The righteous cried and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles.**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Reader: Many are the afflictions of the righteous; the Lord will deliver them out of them all.**

Choir: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!