



**SAINT ANDREW
THE APOSTLE
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America

Christ is The Word
LOGOS

*The mission of Saint Andrew the Apostle Orthodox Church
is to glorify our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ through our words and actions according to the Holy Traditions and Sacred Teachings of our
Holy Orthodox Christian Faith*

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

September 2023

Wisdom

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:26-28

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday School / Parish Picnic - September 17

See the flyer on page 5.

Bishop Thomas visit - October 21-22

Come receive the blessing!

Fall Fest - November 3-4. See info on Page 3 and the flyer on Page 6.

Fall Retreat - November 18. Saint Irenaeus of Lyons: On the Apostolic Preaching

Sunday School Teachers Needed!

Experience and deep biblical knowledge are *not* necessary ... simply faith and a desire to learn! We are flexible, will work with your schedule and, ideally, would like to have a team of at least two teachers for each of the younger 2-3 classes. We hope you will join us ... please see Joy Smith in church, email (Joy@niden.net), or call/text her at 302-245-8302. Thank You!

Altar Server Robes

Thanks to the generosity of several donors, our altar servers will soon be wearing new, improved, robes. Over time, as the younger servers grow and new servers join, we may need to order additional robes. If you would like to contribute to the altar robe fund for future needs, simply mark your offering "altar robes."



**THE TWELVE GREAT FEASTS OF
ORTHODOXY**

Add these dates to your calendar and keep them in mind as you schedule appointments, to **keep these days clear for church services!**

- September 8,** The Nativity of the Theotokos
- September 14,** The Elevation of the Holy Cross
- November 21,** The Presentation of the Theotokos
- December 25,** Christmas, the Nativity of Christ.
- January 6,** Theophany, the Baptism of Christ
- February 2,** The Meeting (Presentation) of the Lord.
- March 25,** The Annunciation
- The Sunday before Pascha,** Palm Sunday
- Forty Days after Pascha,** The Ascension of Christ
- Fifty Days after Pascha,** Pentecost
- August 6,** The Transfiguration
- August 15,** The Falling Asleep of the Theotokos

**THE GREAT FEAST OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION STANDS
ABOVE ALL THE OTHERS.**

**WE LIVE FROM PASCHA TO PASCHA!
MAY 5, 2024**



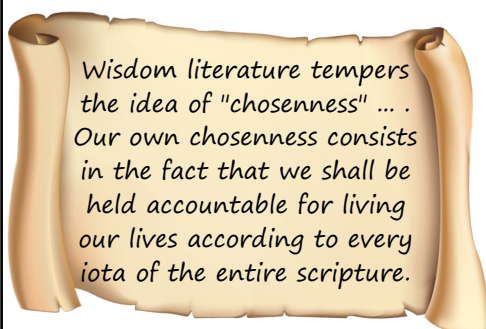
The Function of Wisdom Literature

by Paul Nadim Tarazi

Chap. 13, *Old Testament Introduction: Psalms & Wisdom* (SVS Press, 1996)

The readings in the synagogues of nascent Judaism were three: one from the Law, another from the Prophets, and the third from the Writings [wisdom literature]. The early church added readings from the New Testament.

The "third scripture" is, or at least should be, a "thorn in the flesh" of Christendom, especially as it developed in Western Europe and North America. The increasing stress on the biblical notion of "chosenness," coupled with the "Greek versus barbarian" terminology and the understanding that the Roman empire was its own self-sufficient universe eventually produced the monstrous notion of *natio Christiana* (the Christian "nation") during the Middle Ages--and European Christendom came to perceive itself as a universal norm. Hence the Crusades; the pogroms against Jew, Muslim, and any kind of "infidel"; the Inquisition; the intolerance of contemporary fundamentalists toward anyone who does not share their views; and the end-of-the-world timetables set by so many Christians of all kinds warning that their savior is going to take care of them and damn those who disagree with them.

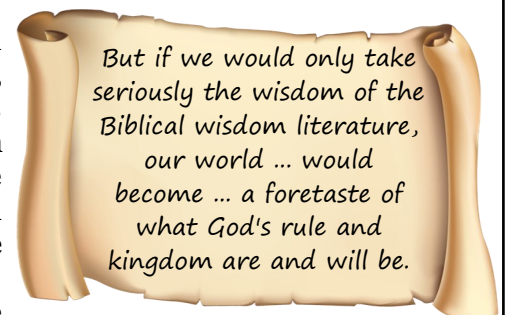


Wisdom literature tempers the idea of "chosenness" ... Our own chosenness consists in the fact that we shall be held accountable for living our lives according to every iota of the entire scripture.

Wisdom literature tempers the idea of "chosenness" that gave rise to such terrible consequences, by reminding us that others are as much God's creation as we are. Our own chosenness consists in the fact that we shall be held accountable for living our lives according to every iota of the entire scripture: first, second, third, and also the fourth (the New Testament). This is why the liturgical life of both Judaism and Christianity is structured around readings of scripture. The readings in the synagogues of nascent Judaism were three: one from the Law, another from the Prophets, and the third from the Writings. The early church added readings from the New Testament. The readings in our own services also follow a certain order: first the Old

Testament, then the "Apostle," and finally the "Gospel." This means that one is to follow a path that culminates with Jesus Christ himself. However, it does not mean that once the level of the Gospels is attained, the Christian may forego the "Apostle" and the Old Testament: they are all, and all together, the one Word of God. Within the realm of the Old Testament itself, there is a gradation from the Writings, to the Prophets, and then to the Law. This is still witnessed to by the church's liturgical calendar, which stipulates that the Writings are to be read more frequently during Great Lent, because that is considered a period for instruction of catechumens, culminating in baptism at Easter. It is, by the way, an indication that wisdom literature was part of the larger corpus referred to as *anaginostomona*, i.e., "things to be read," or "good for reading," and thus edifying material. Edifying in which sense? As an introduction to the Law that it introduces as the true wisdom for wisdom seekers. The Prophets, the second step in this introduction to the Law as the expression of God's will, warn us of the danger of utter destruction by God himself of whoever does not keep that Law.

We contemporary Christians living in the "West," who virtually control the fate of our planet, have largely forgotten that the *ketubim* (Writings), which include mainly the wisdom books, are an integral part of our Bible. As a result our viewpoint is often an "unbiblical," individually-based outlook on what "life" is all about. But if we would only take seriously the wisdom of the Biblical wisdom literature, our world--the good world created by the wisdom of the God of the *torah* (Law) and the *nebi'im* (Prophets)--would become itself and in itself a foretaste of what God's rule and kingdom are and will be. In that case the real challenge will be to realize that it is we ourselves, not the "outsiders," who must change. After all, it is to us, not the "outsiders," that our Lord is saying:



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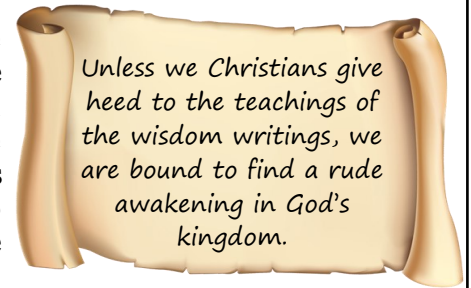
You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you salute only your brethren, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Mt 5:43-48)

If the texts appropriate for catechumens are first and foremost the wisdom writings, how much more appropriate are they for those who are neither Christians nor even catechumens? With such people the language of wisdom is our sole bridge of communication and must

(Cont'd on next page)

The Function of Wisdom Literature (Cont'd from previous page)

remain so until they have acknowledged that true wisdom lies in the Law of the Lord. Only then are we allowed to begin using the language of the *torah* and the *nebi'im* [Prophets] Too often we do the opposite: we condemn "outsiders" on the basis of the latter texts while we do not bother applying even one iota of the *ketubim* [Writings] to ourselves--assuming we even bother to read them! Unless we Christians give heed to the teachings of the wisdom writings, we are bound to find a rude awakening in God's kingdom which is as much communal as the world is, since both are God's. If we did take heed, we would find that we have more cause to condemn ourselves rather than the outsiders, whom we would come to see as members with us of God's community.



Charitable Works

Essential items for the homeless

We are continuing our collection of essential items for the homeless, to be distributed through the Shepherd's Office in Georgetown. **Any** new or gently-used clothing or shoes are welcome. **Always needed and welcome are personal hygiene items, new socks and undergarments, and gently used tents, tarps, and camping goods.**



Lunchbox Tuesday

Thanks to all who joined us to make 231 sandwiches on Tuesday, August 29! **Please join us next time**, on Tuesday, September 26, at 4 pm when we do it again. Please see Lisa Wolak for details and to inquire about donations needed.

Ongoing collection of non-perishable foods

We continue to collect non-perishable food items and paper goods for the food pantry at the Christian Storehouse in Millsboro. Please do not donate anything beyond its expiration date.

Fall Fest! Save the Date!

Friday & Saturday, November 3 & 4

Start thinking about how you will help:

Ad book - Themed Baskets - Bake Sale - Food Prep - Staffing

We are relying on you!



It's time to make plans for the **Fall Fest!** It will take place **Friday & Saturday, November 3 & 4.**

We are counting on you to help. As we get closer to the date, we'll ask for volunteers for specific tasks, but **right now you can begin to help in these ways:**

- **Create a themed basket** for our raffle. Feel free to team up with a friend! If you don't feel able to do a whole basket, you can **donate a significant item** around which a basket can be created by someone else. See Joy Smith for details. (Please provide a list of contents to Kh. Vera by Sept 15.)
- **Place an ad in our event book.** Provide a **memorial** page for your departed loved ones, **give thanks** to God for blessings, **advertise your business**, **express good wishes** to St. Andrew's for a successful Fall Fest. Order forms are available in the church foyer. (Deadline Sept. 15.) See Kh. Vera with questions.
- **Ask the businesses you frequent to place an ad in the event book.** If they say no, that's okay, but please ask! Letters and order forms are available in the church foyer.
- **Provide a recipe for the event book.** We are particularly looking for **international specialties**, and would like to have 10-12 for the book. Please give to Kh. Vera by Sept. 15. See Kh. Vera with questions.
- **Tell all your friends and neighbors** about the Fall Fest and invite them to come! A flyer is provided in this newsletter and is available in the church foyer for you to give out and post in community clubhouses and public spaces as permitted. An electronic copy will be emailed so you can share it on social media.

Please join us! "Many hands make light work!"

September 2023

Every Saturday: 5:15 pm Confession 5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
6 pm Vespers

TROPARION OF ST. ANDREW - Tone 4 – As the first-called Apostle and brother of their leader, O Andrew, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and to our souls great mercy.

Sunday, September 3 **13th Sunday after Pentecost**

Hieromartyr Anthimus, Bishop of Nicomedia and those with him (4th cent.)
Saint Phoebe the Deaconess at Cencreae near Corinth (1st cent.)

Tone 4
Eothinon 2

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 16:13-24
Liturgy Gospel: Matthew 21:33-42

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 4 - Having learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel, the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the disciples saying, Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!

Friday, September 8 – Nativity of the Theotokos – Divine Liturgy 10 am**Sunday, September 10** **Sunday before Elevation of the Cross**

After-feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos
Martyrs Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora, at Nicomedia (4th cent.)

Tone 5
Eothinon 3

Epistle: Galatians 6:11-18
Liturgy Gospel: John 3:13-17

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 5 - Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

Thursday, September 14 – Elevation of the Cross – Divine Liturgy 10 am
Strict Fast Day**Sunday, September 17** **Sunday after Elevation of the Cross**

Martyr Sophia and her three daughters at Rome (2nd cent.)
Martyr Theodota at Nicea (3rd cent.)

Tone 6
Eothinon 4

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20
Liturgy Gospel: Mark 8:34 - 9:1

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 6 - When Mary stood at thy grave, looking for thy sacred Body, angelic powers shone above thy revered tomb, and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led'st hades captive and wast not tempted thereby; thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world. O thou who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to thee!

Sunday, September 24 **Proto-Martyr Thekla**

Synaxis of All Saints of Alaska
Protomartyr and Equal of the Apostles Thekla (1st cent.)

Tone 7
Eothinon 5

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15
Liturgy Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 7 - Thou didst shatter death by thy Cross, thou didst open Paradise to the thief; thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment bearing women into joy, and didst bid thine Apostles proclaim a warning that thou hast risen, O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy!

Regular Schedule

Saturday 5:15 pm Confession
6 pm Vespers
Sunday 9 am Orthros
10 am Divine Liturgy

Check our online calendar at
www.orthodoxdelmar.org/calendar
for the most up-to-date schedule.

Special dates in September:

Nativity of the Theotokos
Friday, September 8
Divine Liturgy, 10 am

Elevation of the Cross
Thursday, September 14
Divine Liturgy, 10 am

Stewardship**Operating revenue & expenses**

July 2023:
Rev. \$11,078 Exp. \$15,390
(\$4,312)

YTD 7/31:
Rev. \$85,678.57 Exp. \$96,426.84
(\$10,748.27)

Operating expenses are those that are necessary for the functioning of the church, such as utilities and maintenance. These do not include purchases/projects covered by donations to special funds, such as Charitable Ministries, Iconography, Camp, etc. Stewardship and undesignated offerings are routed to the General Fund for Operating Expenses. Offerings given specifically for Designated Funds are kept for those uses only.

Details can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway. You may contact the church treasurer (StAndrewTreasurer@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

MANY THANKS to all for your faithful support!

Make note of our regular service times:

Saturday Confessions 5:15 pm Sunday Orthros/Matins 9:00 am
Saturday Vespers 6:00 pm Sunday Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Please contact Father Herman for information about becoming a member of St. Andrew Orthodox Church

Rev. Father Herman Acker, Pastor
33384 Mackenzie Way, Lewes, DE 19958
302-645-5791

frherman1@gmail.com
orthodoxdelmar.org

St. Andrew's 2023 Annual Sunday School Kickoff

**With Parish
Picnic!**



Sunday, September 17

In place of coffee hour.

All are invited!

**Please join us for a day of
Fun and Celebration!!**

**Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips
& Beverages will be provided.**

**You are invited to bring a
side dish or dessert.**

**For more information,
Contact Joy Smith
Joy@niden.net**



Baklava - Tsoureki - Tortenboden - Kourabiethes

Greek Salad - Halupki - Pastitsio - Gyro - Pierogies - Sausage

Moussaka - Falafel - Spanakopita - Crepes - Dolmades



St. Andrew Orthodox Church 2023

FALL FEST!

Friday, November 3 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday, November 4 9 am to 4 pm

Themed Baskets!



Int'l Bake Sale!



Int'l Foods!



Church Tours!

Plus: Mediterranean Market & Grandma's Attic!

St. Andrew Orthodox Church
33384 Mackenzie Way (off Plantation Rd.) - Lewes, DE 19958
302-645-5791 - StAndrewLewes@gmail.com
www.orthodoxdelmar.org

Galaktobouriko - Rice Pudding - Melomakarona